

THE LONDON LITERARY GAZETTE; AND Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences, &c.

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No. 999.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1836.

PRICE 8d.

The striking Events of a Twelvemonth's Campaign with Zumalacarregrui, in Navarre and the Basque Provinces. By C. F. Kenningsen, Captain of Lancers in the Service of Don Carlos. 2 vols. 12mo. London, Murray.

A TRUE account, such as Othello describes, of the imminent perils, the adventures, vicissitudes, and hardships of Guerilla warfare, cannot fail to be full of stirring interest; and the present example of that class of authorship will, perhaps, be found the more attractive from its helping to clear away the clouds and mists with which partisan or stock-jobbing intelligence has obscured the public mind relative to the contest in Spain, through the medium of the periodical press. It is, however, a work which requires no critical introduction or remarks, for the character of the leader, and the nature and circumstances of the conflict in which he has fallen, are generally so well known as to need no further illustration; and the best idea which can be afforded of the narrative is to detach from it some of those passages which relate to the most important and extraordinary affairs.

The Dedication is to Lord Eliot, and contains the following remarkable and melancholy sentence:—

"These chapters I cannot more appropriately dedicate than to an Englishman,—one of the very few who have in any way interfered in the civil strife now desolating Spain, whose name will not be a curse to her people, but on whose head the blessings of all ranks of Spaniards will be showered. I beg your lordship to accept the tribute of my private feelings, and my public expression of them, in thus assuring you of the deep sense I entertain of the manner in which you discharged one of the noblest offices of humanity, and of its effect in saving the lives of thousands."

Of Zumalacarregrui, whose striking portrait is prefixed,* the author says:—

"When he placed himself at the head of the partisans of the exiled prince, they had been defeated, dispersed, or disarmed, in all the provinces. All that Zumalacarregrui could then rally of his discouraged followers scarcely exceeded 800 undisciplined and badly armed men; and with this force he bade defiance to the usurping government, which had then on foot in the Peninsula above 120,000 men, including the veteran army of the constitutional war. For months, reinforcement succeeded reinforcement, and one general followed another, even to the redoubted Mina, each with new plans and great projects, till their renown shrunk successively away before that of the Carlist leader, like waves that shiver against a rock. After destroying upwards of 50,000 men, and a number of officers, which it is fearful to think of,—after nearly clearing Navarre and the provinces,—and taking or causing the enemy to evacuate sixteen fortified places,—he died in the hour when his fortune was taking those wide and rapid leaps which we so often see in

the career of a great character. He found, as I have said, 800 badly armed peasants and fourteen horses, and he left to the sovereign he had served so well, on the day of his death, 28,000 men of well-organised and disciplined infantry, and 800 horse, well mounted and appointed, 26 pieces of artillery, and 12,000 spare muskets,—all won by his own good sword; for, although the country offered him willing hands to wield them, it had been so completely disarmed, that every weapon he gave them he was obliged to take from a living foe, and his arsenal, as he expressed it, 'was in the ranks of the enemy.' From thence almost all the Carlist equipments—muskets, horses, and cannon, with the exception of 1500 muskets (all that he ever received from abroad), and 200 horses, which would about supply the place of those lost in the campaign—had been taken. Whole battalions are armed with new muskets, having the Tower proof on them, or the marks of the French manufactories, supplied to the queen, in virtue of the quadruple alliance, by the ministers of France and England, who little imagined they were sending them eventually to arm the partisans of Don Carlos."

The following shews how advantageously the Carlists are situated in these provinces when compared with the Christinos:—

"One immense advantage the Carlist army possessed was the devotion of the inhabitants to their cause; every where the Carlist found a home and succour, and the Liberals bitter and determined enemies. Nor is this the case only in the insurgent provinces. I would undertake to go, representing myself as a Carlist, from cottage to cottage, to within a day's march of Madrid, aided and assisted by the peasantry at the peril of their own lives. The intelligence and the orders which the Carlists wish to have conveyed to any part or to any distance, they can always depend on having carried more rapidly than the enemy could; their means are superior to what he can possess—the sturdy limbs of a mountaineer. The speed of a horse, in a country like the greater part of the north of Spain, can be but very limited, as, on account of the shortest roads being always so rough and irregular, the animal can but walk, and often rather creep along. A man unaccustomed to the country can never rival the celerity with which the inhabitants traverse the ground; they seldom keep to any path, they go almost as the crow flies. The enemy never ventures, unless in a considerable body, across the open country. In the ordinary routine of things, a Carlist officer has but to give a paper into the hands of an alcalde, or even a verbal message, to be forwarded in any direction; he immediately pitches upon the householder 'vecino,' who must either go or furnish the messenger—each one of the inhabitants being liable in their turn. On reaching the next village, he may, if he finds himself fatigued, hand it over to another; but if the words 'Luego, luego, luego!' despatch, three times repeated, should be upon it, when tired he may give it into the hands of the

first individual he meets—the herdsman must leave his flock, the labourer his plough, to carry it; and any man refusing or betraying such a trust would be denounced by his neighbours, his friends, or even his own family. Independent of the numerous regular spies kept up by Zumalacarregrui, some extending to the environs of Saragossa and Burgos,—whenever he entered into action, the peasants might be seen on all sides running breathless over the mountains to give him gratuitously the news of all the movements which had taken place, often at the imminent risk of being shot by the opposite party. A confidant of the Royalists will carry a letter twenty miles, at the greatest peril to himself, and only receive half a douro, 2s. 6d., for his trouble, and is perfectly satisfied. The Christinos must pay several ounces for the same services. In the despatches which were intercepted, they constantly complained of the exorbitant prices at which they were obliged to obtain their information; and with such a singular fatality were their spies always discovered by Zumalacarregrui, that those who might have been tempted by gold to undertake that office were deterred from it by the certainty of detection. When a column of the Queenites was quartered in a town or village, not a peasant dared, on any pretext, unless before witnesses, enter the houses of the generals or any superior officers, lest he should be suspected by his neighbours of acting as a spy. Much of this was owing to the admirable manner in which Zumalacarregrui had organised every thing. Such was the ascendancy he assumed over the population, that, when they were placed in the alternative of being shot by the Christinos or of disobeying his orders, they have infinitely preferred the most imminent risk of the former."

Of one of the first actions described, the sequel is a dismal instance of the horrors of civil war.

"As hitherto the Carlist prisoners were shot as rebels, and the Christinos suffered death by way of reprisal, Zumalacarregrui, anxious to put an end to this dreadful state of things, set at liberty and caused to be escorted as far as Echauri, five miles from Pampluna, two soldiers, who, unable from fatigue to follow the march, had been taken from Quesada's column. The next time the latter sallied from Pampluna, he requited the mercy of the Carlist general by shooting in Huarte d'Araquil a wounded volunteer, and putting afterwards to death the alcalde of Atoun, who was suspected of Carlistism, as well as several other individuals. Zumalacarregrui now wrote to General Count Arnalde de Toledo, from his head-quarters at Etchari-Arenas, a little higher up in the Borunda, to state, 'that, since the chiefs appointed by the usurping government were unwilling to make any arrangement for the preservation of the lives of their respective followers, although he, willing to bury in oblivion the murder of General Santos Ladron, had several times set them the example of clemency, the blood of those that perished must be now on their own

* A map of the provinces—the seat of war, is also a valuable and useful addition.

heads.' It was his intention, he declared, to shoot, by way of reprisals for the alcalde of Atoun, Colonel O'Donnel (Conde de Labispa), two officers of the guards, and one of carabineros; for a corporal shot at Pampeluna, six carabineros (who hold the same rank in the line); and for each of two volunteers shot at Tolosa, six soldiers of the guard; together with six others, for a Carlist bayoneted at Calhahora. He kept his word. Of all the prisoners who were executed, perhaps the fate of Leopold O'Donnel was the most melancholy. Although a colonel in the service, he was then merely accompanying Quesada, to profit by the escort to Pampeluna, whither he was going to celebrate his nuptials with a young and wealthy heiress. He perished through that valour which seems a heirloom in his family, and sacrificed himself with a company of the guards to save Quesada and his staff. He offered that, if Zumalacarrgui would spare his life, he would pay a ransom that would equip all the battalions of Navarre; but, knowing the necessity for making an example, the chief remained inexorable. He died, with his brother-officers of the guards, in a manner which added another example to the many, that often those who have most enjoyed a life of luxury and pleasure, and to whom it still holds forth bright prospects, can relinquish it with the least regret. His father, the Count of Labispa, celebrated both during the triumphs of Wellington and the revolution of 1823, callous and heartless as he had been throughout his political career, was doomed to prove, on hearing of the death of his son, that there was still one point where his sensibility was vulnerable. He died of a broken heart on learning the tidings, in the south of France (I believe at Montpellier), where he had been long residing."

We now select a story of another, but still of an appalling kind—it is of General Rodil, the queen's general in Navarre.

"During his defence of the castle of Callao, in Peru, in which he held out most gallantly, till every thing was knocked to pieces, and the garrison had eaten every cat and rat in the fortress, he was informed that some of his men, worn out by famine and fatigue, had entered into a conspiracy to surrender the place to the enemy, and thus end their misery. Rodil assembled the whole garrison next morning, and harangued them to this effect:—"That, having resolved to defend the castle to the last extremity, he had determined to dismiss all those who were either unwilling or unable to support the privations of a siege; and that those who felt inclined to surrender to the enemy had only to step out of the ranks." More than a third of the men eagerly pressed forward: they were commanded to lay down their arms and accoutrements, and to form in line opposite to those who remained firm. Rodil then ordered the latter to level and fire! He was obeyed—the recreants were butchered without remorse by their comrades on the spot; and Rodil retired, with the assurance that he had now a faithful garrison. After burning the monasteries of Beira, Ronsevallos, and many others, under the pretence that the monks who lived in those edifices had favoured the Carlists—although, in truth, they had done no such thing, until these injuries proved that their neutrality availed them nothing—he swept the Bastan, and fortified the hospital at Elisondo. Then, dividing his army into numerous columns, he pursued both Zumalacarrgui and the king, who had been advised to separate from his general, and continue with a small force, flying from the enemy under the direction of Erasó,

who, with singular skill and activity, always managed to elude pursuit. While Zumalacarrgui was preparing to give the enemy such occupation as would make them leave his royal master in comparative quiet, the army of Rodil being then all fresh and enthusiastic, and meeting with scarcely any opposition, followed with the utmost vigour; and the king's life was saved more than once by a hair-breadth escape; sometimes pursued day and night by several columns, the insignificant numbers he had with him alone enabled him to elude his persecutors, his route being thereby more easily concealed. It is not easy to conceive all the unfortunate monarch suffered at this time, aroused at all hours to undertake long arduous marches during every inclemency of the weather,—through snow and rain, and by roads where half the time it was impossible to proceed otherwise than on foot. Although several times in imminent danger, and advised to enter France, he always evinced the same firm determination of conquering back his crown, or of dying in the contest for it on the soil of Spain. On one occasion Rodil had tracked him to a mountain, which he surrounded with 9000 men. So actively had the pursuit and search been carried on, that a young officer of artillery, Don Tomas Reyna, who had been endeavouring to manufacture a few pieces of artillery in the mountains, was also obliged to fly with his artisans and artillerymen. The night, fortunately, was dark and stormy; the king, on one side, with about a hundred followers, and Reyna, on the other, were wandering about, benumbed by the small piercing rain, and obliged to retrace their steps many times on account of having met with the bivouac fires of the Christinos. At last the two fugitive parties approached each other. Reyna, exhausted from fatigue, and finding himself close upon what he imagined to be a patrol of the enemy's horse, was just about ordering his men to fire, when, fortunately, a mutual recognition took place. The fidelity of the peasantry, who knew that the king was in such a strait, saved him, by leading him out of danger during the night. All effort to overtake the king having proved useless, and his majesty having been ultimately extricated from further peril by Zumalacarrgui, who was rapidly destroying the Christino divisions in detail, Rodil, as the readiest means of concluding the war, directed all his attention to attacking and crushing that chief. He carried his resolution into execution with so much perseverance and vigour, that it required all the determination of the Carlist leader and the Navarrese to baffle his efforts. Frequently the royal army had to march for sixteen, eighteen, and twenty-three hours successively. On one occasion, Zumalacarrgui being with the king, I remember that the march continued twenty hours, no halt for above twenty-five minutes being made during this time, and the soldiers scarcely quitting their arms. At daybreak, after this harassing march, we found ourselves in the very village from which we had started the preceding morning, two of the enemy's divisions having in the meanwhile passed through it! Another time we were also with the king, and halted at nightfall, after a long day of fatigue, on a mountain where there was nothing but a shepherd's hut. The king slept in the only room, if such it could be called, which the hut contained. His ministers retired to the stable, and Zumalacarrgui, like the rest of his army, stretched himself on his cloak beneath a tree. Rodil marked his way with fire and blood. Quesada had, indeed, shot the sick and wounded

Carlists who had fallen into his hands; but the former commenced that persecution of the inhabitants which the Christino generals who succeeded him afterwards continued. The houses that had afforded a shelter to the fugitive monarch, which it was not in the power of their occupiers to refuse, were burned to the ground. The alcaldes were shot for not delivering up rations which had been anticipated by the Carlists, or for not acquainting the Christinos with the movements of the insurgents, from whom they would have met the same fate for acting as spies. The injustice and cruelty of the queen's troops had, however, the effect of rousing such as had hitherto been lukewarm; and, from infancy to age, all became partisans of the king. Women, children, and old men, all took an active part in the insurrection—watching, carrying information, and assisting by every means in their power. In a mountain warfare they became powerful auxiliaries."

We now give another more horrible recital after the battle of Vittoria, 27th October:—

"The night of the 28th, when after the victory we were retiring in two divisions, one of those occurrences took place which it is difficult to prevent in the fury of a civil war, but which, nevertheless, makes the blood run cold at the mere recital. Zumalacarrgui, as I have said, had ordered quarter to be given during the day, and the march had already been beat, when those who had been foremost in the pursuit returned, bringing back, after the other six hundred had been despatched to the rear, between eighty and a hundred fresh prisoners, whom they had captured under the walls of Vittoria. These were sent under escort across the mountains. As night was coming on, the captain of the company who had charge of them, and who had only been able to assemble thirty men of his company, found himself seriously embarrassed in the narrow and rocky roads, bordered on each side by a thick brushwood. Two of his prisoners had already made their escape, when he sent to Zumalacarrgui to inform him of it, and that, as he had only thirty men to guard them, he could not answer for his prisoners. 'Get cords,' said the general. He was answered, that the villages had been abandoned, and that they had searched in vain for some. 'Then put them to death—*pasar los por armas*.' With this reply the messenger returned; but immediately an aide-de-camp spurred after him to say, that care must be taken that Ituralde's division was not alarmed by the firing. The captain, who was an old Navarrese of Mina's school, on receiving this order, sent for a sergeant and fifteen lancers, and, causing his men to fix bayonets, commanded them to charge into the midst of the unfortunate wretches, who were all miserably slaughtered on the spot. The scene is said to have baffled all description; the unfortunate victims were shrieking for mercy, and claspings the knees of their destroyers and their horses: several young officers were amongst the slain. We passed the spot where the massacre had been, but I did not hear until the next day all its horrors recited. I have always wished that this page, which tarnishes the glory of that victory, could be blotted from the history of the war; but, in sketching its prominent features, while I feel as the partisan, I have resolved not to swerve from the impartiality of the historian."

Our last selections are from the end of the work, and after the death of Zumalacarrgui.

"As it was my intention to depart for the frontier in a few hours, I went to dine with Colonel Goni, of the first battalion. During

dinner we were alarmed by a discharge of musketry. As his battalion was on duty opposite Puente, we immediately mounted our horses, which, fortunately, were ready saddled, and proceeded to the battery. Puente la Reyna stands on the declivity of a hill; on the further side the river Argu runs before it: this end was rendered unapproachable by two batteries on slight eminences. On advancing we found that the enemy had made a sortie, and taken possession of one which we had erected opposite these. Having placed himself at the head of two companies, which were on guard about a hundred yards from it, we advanced, and recaptured it, with a trifling loss, Goni being wounded but very slightly in the thigh. The first thing that met our sight on entering, was Reyna lying dead; he had received a bayonet wound through the heart, from which the yet warm blood was bubbling, and a shot through the throat; we next perceived Lieutenant Plaza, with his brains blown out; and seven artillerymen, all killed by shots that had evidently been fired the muskets touching, as the clothes of two of them were burning like tinder. All this happened through the negligence of the sentinel, who had fallen asleep, and had first paid the forfeit of his carelessness. Tired with superintending the battery all night, Reyna was taking an hour's sleep between some shells; the rest were eating. It is supposed some spy must have crept through the vines, and given the enemy intelligence of this; for he so completely surprised them, that the artillerymen had not time to snatch their muskets up before they fled. From the evidence of these men, it appears that Reyna, Plaza, and seven artillerymen, surrendered prisoners of war. "Quarter for those who surrender on their knees!" cried the Christians. Reyna and the others obeyed this injunction. After an interval of ten minutes, when they had pursued the rest, and spiked our pieces, they murdered those prisoners in cold blood; as it was after that time that the discharge was heard in the battery. Three of the bodies of their victims had their hands tied behind their backs by pocket-handkerchiefs, and one by the strap of a cartouche-box, which had been cut up for the purpose. This was the first time since the Elliot convention that they were called on to apply it to the persons of Carlist officers, although so well had Zumalacarre observed the treaty, that above four thousand prisoners had been made during the last month. They had managed, as I have stated, to spike our pieces, and in a most complete manner, only with iron instead of steel nails; so that they were easily drawn out with pincers; and half an hour after the battery opened fire again. I could not get any of the soldiers, probably from some superstitious feeling, to lend me a knife or scissors to cut off a little of Reyna's hair to send to his brother, a chef d'escadron, under whose orders I had served, and with whom I was particularly intimate. I was obliged at last to use the sword of an artilleryman, which was very sharp. Reyna and his brother had been the means of saving the lives of many of the prisoners, and were as noted for their humanity as their valour. Two days after, when I was near the frontier, the battle of Mendigorria took place, in which the Carlists were worsted, although the defeat led to no important results. Reyna, who had received the intelligence of his brother's death, and the melancholy token I sent him, distinguished himself by saving two battalions of Castille. Lopez, with five hundred horse, was pursuing, when Reyna was allowed to charge with the third and fourth squadrons, in all two hundred and forty horse; he broke

and routed the cavalry of Lopez, and, giving no mercy, made a great slaughter, to avenge the murder of his brother. I have heard from an eye-witness, who joined me afterwards at Bayonne, that all the fourth squadron came back with their lances dripping with blood. Tomas Reyna, still a young man, was captain of cuirassiers of Ferdinand's guard. He had much distinguished himself, and was a great favourite with Zumalacarre. No one more deeply lamented or endeavoured to assuage, as far as lay in his power, the horrors of civil war. Since then I have heard that he has become the Claverhouse of the Carlist army, having vowed never to spare foes who shewed so little kindness to his own blood. The last scene I witnessed before leaving the royalist army was—as the first had been—one of bloodshed. Reyna was one of my earliest acquaintances. Few, very few of those I had known in the beginning of the war—a year ago—survived its vicissitudes; and the links of the friendships I had contracted had one by one been broken. Three days after I re-crossed the frontier, and abandoned my red beret and sword for a round hat and walking-staff. My object in detailing a few passages of my campaign, mostly from notes made on the spot, has been to give some account of the difficulties with which a man whose exploits are worthy of some record had to struggle, and what he achieved; and to enlighten the public, by the history of what Don Carlos has hitherto contended with, as to the real chances of success which the devotion and energy of the Basque people give his cause."

We lament to see that the author holds out a sad prospect for General Evans and our countrymen under his command.

Nautical Economy; or, Forecastle Recollections of Events during the Last War. Dedicated to the Brave Tars of Old England. By a Sailor, politely called by the Officers of the Navy, Jack Nasty-Face. 8vo. pp. 124. London, 1836. Robinson.

THE spirit in which this production is written is not that of a true British tar; but still it is not altogether poisoned by evil designs and misrepresentations. We are quite aware, and so, most probably, was the writer, that many errors and imperfections, which it paints in hideous colours, have long since been corrected, and cease to deform the naval service; yet, if but a vestige of them remain, we shall be content to see exaggeration do its worst till every blemish is utterly removed. Man, intrusted with absolute control over man, is too apt to degenerate into oppressor; and there is no possible precaution which ought not to be taken to guard against a result so natural and unnatural. When a wretch enjoyed the power to order a score of his fellow-creatures to be flogged for not handling a rope or a sail so quickly as he wished it to be done, and had no account to render to superior authority, there was a temptation to abuse and cruelty without responsibility, the bare contemplation of which, in the case of a single tyrant, makes our blood run cold, or boil with indignant horror. But neither is this, nor many other grievances, on which our author dilates, possible in our time; the perpetration of such acts is as unreal as the existence of Smollett's Commodore Truncheon, Tom Pipes, and other notables, created by talent, it is true, on the traits of actual character. The days of both are gone by.

The narrative before us purports to be opposed to the holiday-books published by officers of the navy; and it is only fair to hear what a common seaman has to say, or, perhaps, what

can be said in his name. We, therefore, deem it our duty to pay more attention to this slight volume than its inherent qualities might appear to deserve; but, if there be aught in the navy which still requires reform, the more openly it is canvassed, and the sooner it is remedied, the better. The following is, we trust, an impossibility, according to the rules and discipline of 1836:—

"About eleven o'clock, or six bells, when any of the men are in irons, or on the black list, the boatswain or mate are ordered to call all hands; the culprits are then brought forward by the master-at-arms, who is a warrant officer, and acts the part of Jack Ketch, when required; he likewise has the prisoners in his custody, until they are put in irons, under any charge. All hands being now mustered, the captain orders the man to strip; he is then seized to a grating by the wrists and knees; his crime is then mentioned, and the prisoner may plead, but, in nineteen cases out of twenty, he is flogged for the most trifling offence or neglect, such as not hearing the watch called at night, not doing any thing properly on deck or aloft, which he might happen to be sent to do, when, perhaps, he has been doing the best he could, and at the same time ignorant of having done wrong, until he is pounced on, and put in irons. So much for the legal process. After punishment, the boatswain's mate pipes to dinner, it being eight bells, or twelve o'clock; and this is the pleasantest part of the day, as at one bell the fifer is called to play 'Nancy Dawson,' or some other lively tune, a well-known signal that the grog is ready to be served out."

This is a painful subject to think upon, even with the utmost mistrust of its truth; and we hasten to relieve it with an anecdote which shews the advantage of learning to dance. The writer tells us—

"As we were closely engaged throughout the battle, and the shots were playing their pranks pretty freely, grape as well as canister, with single and double-headed thunderers all joining in the frolic, what was termed a *slaughtering one* came in at one of the lower deck ports, which killed and wounded nearly all at the gun, and amongst them a very merry little fellow, who was the very life of the ship's company, for he was ever the mirth of his mess, and, on whatever duty he might be ordered, his spirits made light the labour. He was the ship's cobbler, and, withal, a very good dancer; so that, when any of his messmates would *save* us out a tune, he was sure to trip it on light fantastic toe, and find a step to it. He happened to be stationed at the gun where this messenger of death and destruction entered, and the poor fellow was so completely stunned by the head of another man being knocked against his, that no one doubted but that he was dead. As it is customary to throw overboard those who, in an engagement, are killed outright, the poor cobbler, amongst the rest, was taken to the port-hole to be committed to the deep, without any other ceremony than shoving him through the port; but, just as they were about to let him slip from their hands into the water, the blood began to circulate, and he commenced kicking. Upon this sign of returning life, his shipmates soon hauled the poor snob in again, and, though wonderful to relate, he recovered so speedily that he actually fought the battle out; and, when he was afterwards joked about it, he would say, 'It was well that I learned to dance; for, if I had not shewn you some of my steps when you were about to throw me overboard, I should

not be here now, but safe enough in Davy Jones's locker."

Returning from victory, Mr. Nasty-face has leave of absence to visit his friends; and his own account of his proceedings will prove how apt he is to condemn where he has himself alone to blame.

"I bent my course (he says) forward until I reached Fareham, and, being aware that a press-gang was lurking about that neighbourhood, I felt very much inclined to give them a little trouble: I had gone nearly through the town unobserved by them; but at length the alarm was given that a sailor was making good his way in full sail towards London, when two members of that worthless set of body-snatchers set out in pursuit. I could, by keeping a good look-out, observe their movements, and I walked sharply on; they commenced running—I did the same, and kept well on until I arrived at an inn by the road-side, where I thought proper to stop, and let them come up with me; I did not take any notice of them, nor shew any appearance of alarm; but, supposing I was a prize, one of them grappled me on the star-board, and the other on the larboard side, by the collar of my jacket, demanding the name of the ship I belonged to; when, on coolly shewing them my liberty-ticket, they showered a broadside of curses on me for giving them such a run, and quietly left me to pursue my journey. After this, however, I had to contend with the land-sharks; for, on my arrival at Alton, I was stopped by a party of soldiers, to whose inspection I had again to exhibit my ticket of leave; and thus, for thirty miles from the sea-port, was a poor seaman hunted by this detestable set, who are constantly watching, in the bye-lanes and fields, to intercept any seaman who may be passing that way; the inducement held out to these men-stealers is five pounds for each seaman they may capture; and thus many a poor fellow is hunted by those bloodhounds, who chase them with greater eagerness than the huntsman pursues the fox. After getting so far clear of those nests of vipers, I proceeded on to London, where I stayed with my friends until my liberty was out."

A true sailor would never speak thus of men doing their duty; men, too, whose suspicions and anger he had scandalously provoked in order "to give them a little trouble." The following is in similar taste, and, it must be allowed, exhibits strange ideas of justice:

"After a tedious voyage we at length arrived in Lisbon, which was in the year 1811, and no time was lost in disembarking the troops. During our stay at this place we witnessed the extreme sentence of the law being put into execution upon two marines, who were hung at the yard-arm of one of his majesty's ships, for no other offence than that of throwing an officer overboard who had used them cruelly at different times. It will be said that they deserved the fate they met, as they had no right to take the law into their own hands; but, in mitigation of such a reproach to their memory, let the reader recollect, that these poor fellows had no other means of redress: and it is a proof how much a reform is wanted in the conduct of officers both in the navy and the marines."

The reasoning on these premises runs thus:

"Great Britain can truly boast of her hearts of oak, the floating sinews of her existence, and the high station she holds in the political world; and if she could but once rub out those stains of wanton and torturing punishments, so often unnecessarily resorted to, and abandon the unnatural and uncivilised custom of impressment, en, and not till then, can her navy be said to

have got to the truck of perfection. In the first, a radical reform in her officers is the only means to effect it; for did these men but think a little more of national honour, and a little less of self-importance, there would be less difference between the belly and the members. A seaman will as soon risk his life for his kind and good captain as he would to defend his country's honour; but among the many who have had command in the British navy, how few there are who are spoken well of by those who have sailed with them."

But we have done enough for this Lawyer's Clerk, and shall conclude with an interesting sailor's story.

"Our ship having touched the ground, we were obliged to lie under their batteries all night, and had they been skillful marksmen, they must have cut us to pieces; their shots were whistling over us, some a-head, some a-stern, and a great many fell short: there was not one in fifty that hit us, but those that did effected great execution. Amongst them was a very distressing and mischievous one, which knocked a man's head completely from his shoulders, and struck a lieutenant on the breast: the lieutenant was knocked down by the force of the head striking him; he was, of course, taken down to the cockpit as a wounded man, from his being very much besmeared with the blood from the man's head. The doctor immediately inquired of him whereabouts he was hurt, and he pointed to his breast; but when the doctor unbuttoned his waistcoat and examined, there was not the least symptom of his having been wounded; indeed, he was more frightened than hurt—but certainly it was enough to alarm any man. He was requested to sit down and compose himself; and, to state the truth, it was some time before that fit of composure went off, for he very prudently had no notion of going on deck again, while men's heads were flying about, and doing so much mischief. Nearly twenty of our men were killed and wounded, and among them was a steady and much-respected seaman, with the calves of both his legs shot away. It became necessary to amputate one of the legs immediately, and during the operation he did not utter a syllable; and shortly after, on the doctor's examining the other leg, that was also doomed to undergo a similar fate. Upon being told this, the poor fellow pleaded very hard that it might be left him, and very coolly observed, that he should like one leg left to wear his shoes out; but the doctor was obliged to take off the other leg, the symptoms of mortification being very apparent: like a brave fellow, he bore his sufferings with great fortitude, and, to the surprise of every one present, at the finish of the second amputation, he exclaimed, 'Now to the devil with all the shoemakers—I have done with them!' This man was progressively doing well, and his wounds were healing fast; but, from lying in one position for such a length of time, his back mortified, and he breathed his last, much regretted by all his shipmates."

Much of what is said of punishments on board of ship (should a tittle of it be true) may deserve the attention of government; what is told about the fair dames of the sea-ports visiting ships, had better have been omitted.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

[Continuation: Review of Dr. Granville's Volume.]

FROM the very unfavourable view which our last quotation from Dr. Granville's work takes of the present state of the Royal Society, we proceed to the further illustration of his opi-

nions. By a dissected list of the fellows, he shews, that of ten spiritual lords, only one, the late Bishop of Cloyne, has contributed to the Transactions. From sixty-three temporal lords, there is no contribution whatever; so that they may truly be considered not as pillars of support, but as Corinthian capitals. Of naval officers, five, out of twenty-seven, have contributed seven articles. Of military officers, out of thirty-nine, four have contributed twenty-eight articles; Capt. Kater furnishing thirteen, and Capt. Edward Sabine, twelve; Lieut.-Colonel J. Macdonald, two, and Lieut.-Colonel George Miller, one. Of clergymen, to the number of seventy-four, the contributions have been eight, and the contributors five. The lawyers have supplied twenty-eight contributions from a phalanx of sixty-three members, Sir David Brewster counting sixteen; Lord Brougham, three; and Dr. Marsden, four. The physicians turn out better, and give sixty-six papers from a number of seventy-nine M.D.'s; J. Davy standing for thirteen, W. Henry for ten, A. P. W. Philip for seven, and J. R. Johnson and W. Prout for four each. The surgeons, twenty-one in number, beat all in prolificness, their papers amounting to one hundred and thirty-seven, whereof Sir E. Home alone produced one hundred and nine; Sir A. Carlisle, seven; Charles Bell, five; and J. Abernethy, three. The Fellows not included in the other lists have given 188 contributions from 286; including Mr. Brande, twelve; Mr. S. H. Christie, ten; Mr. Goldingham, five; Mr. Hatchett, sixteen; Sir J. Herschel, twelve; Mr. T. A. Knight, twenty-four; Mr. W. Morgan, seven; Mr. Pond, nineteen; and others, from four to one—the contributors being forty-seven. From a general review of the lists whence we have copied these results, Dr. G. says:—

"From the perusal of the preceding documents, my readers will rise with the full conviction, that, in the election of its members, the society has not often considered the real interests of science, or its dignity as a scientific body. Few, very few indeed, of the several hundred fellows, classed in the manner I have exhibited them to the public, had not, when elected, or have even at this moment, any pretension to be considered as scientific men—few who could be expected to become useful and valuable members—few who cared for the admission, except as it conferred on them an appellation which it was at one time the custom to look upon as honourable."

The author further contends, that as the society is now constituted, good papers are often rejected, while very bad ones flourish among the Transactions; which is precisely the charge brought by Dr. Sir John Hill in his quarto of 1751, to which we referred last week, and to which, for the sake of relieving the dryness of discussion, we shall now turn for some humorous satire.

The dedication to Martin Folkes, Esq., the then president, is very biting. The writer says, "That the work might not be without its real use, an error is no where exposed without the establishing the truth in the place of it; and the author has no wish in regard to it, but that the Society may, by means of it, become ashamed of what it has been, and that the world may know he is not a member of it, till it is an honour to a man to be so. Among the members of it, there are men great in all senses of the word, men esteemed in the highest degree by the author of these animadversions, and by whom he thinks it his greatest honour to be esteemed: the subject of complaint is, that a

few busy and ignorant persons thrust themselves into employment, while those who are able to do the body credit refuse to join their labours to those of such unworthy associates, or even to countenance with their appearance the meetings where such business is transacted. These see too clearly, to suppose a censure of the Society, under its present management, an attack upon their separate characters; they agree with the author in his opinions, and seem determined to make this work the basis of a reformation that will set the body they belong to above the reach of an attack of the same kind for the future. How much such a reformation is wanted will appear from the succeeding pages; how long it has been wanted, and how much the greatest men of other times have been of this author's opinion about it, may appear from the following quotation, to which nothing need be added. 'There is no study more becoming a rational creature, than that of natural philosophy; but, as several of our modern virtuosos manage it, their speculations do not so much tend to open and enlarge the mind, as to contract and fix it upon trifles. This, in England, is, in a great measure, owing to the worthy elections that are so frequently made in our Royal Society. They seem to be in a confederacy against men of polite genius, noble thought, and diffusive learning; and choose into their assemblies such as have no pretence to wisdom, but want of wit; or to natural knowledge, but ignorance of every thing else. I have made observations in this matter so long, that when I meet with a young fellow that is an humble admirer of the sciences, but more dull than the rest of the company, I conclude him to be a fellow of the Royal Society.'—*Tatler*, No. 236."

In his first part, Sir J. Hill takes up the division of "Arts invented, improved, or recommended, as inculcated in the Transactions of the Royal Society of London;" and the annexed will exhibit his manner of treating this branch of his subject. He laughs at "a way to kill rattlesnakes," and quotes the method from the Transactions, viz.—

"Catch a rattlesnake, as large and vigorous as you please; fix it in any manner that you will, so that it cannot possibly get away; then procure a cleft stick, and put into the notch of it a quantity of the bruised leaves of wild pennyroyal; direct the end of the stick towards the serpent's nose; as he avoids it, still pursue him with it; and in half an hour's time he will be killed by the mere scent of the herb."

Upon this the critic remarks—

"If the world should wish to see this amazing discovery paralleled by another more modern instance, we have a very late one in a countryman of our own, the ever-to-be-remembered inventor of the powder for killing of fleas. The method of using this was very like that which the captain here prescribes for his pennyroyal. The flea was to be held conveniently between the thumb and finger of the left hand, while a very small quantity of the powder was applied to the end of its trunk; after which, if the same flea could be proved ever to have bit the person again, he was to have another paper of the powder for nothing. How unhappy was it for the ingenious inventor of the method of destroying these vermin, that he did not apply himself to the Royal Society! the very first old woman he sold a paper to, unluckily asked him, whether, when she had got the flea, if she should crack it under her nail, it would not be as well? The poor fellow could not but answer, that that way would do too, and was so thunderstruck with the objection, that he never sold

another. Such is the misfortune of a man's applying himself to old women, and being upon the spot, and in the way of having impertinent questions asked him: had he lived in New England or Virginia, and only communicated his discovery to a Royal Society, who, of all its members, would have thought of such a trifling objection to so useful a proposal?"

He continues in the following ludicrous vein:—

"Not to set the captain's discovery too low, however, there is one set of people to whom we cannot but think it our duty to recommend it; that is, the lovers,—we mean the lovers who read. The very eminent and learned Mr. Lovell, author of the *Pamminerologico-panbotanologico-panzoologicum* (don't wonder, gentle reader, at the length of the title, when the book it belongs to contains, if you will believe the author, all the knowledge of the world, upon all the subjects in it), recommends to those unfortunate lovers, who are not beloved again, the dens caninus of the right side of the upper jaw of a crocodile, to be tied to the left side of the cruel fair one; but he says, that, to have its full force, it ought to be taken out while the creature is alive: this has hitherto seemed to the amorous world a sort of romantic expedition, something of kin to that called, 'taking a bear by the tooth;' and many a hapless lover, we believe, has hanged himself for want of courage to undertake so desperate a means of relief. But see the misfortune of not being acquainted with the Philosophical Transactions! here is an evident remedy against all such objections: crocodiles are of the nature of serpents, and we will venture to assure the world, that pennyroyal will as soon kill one of them as the other; here needs no more, therefore, to be cured of an unhappy love-fit—to command a proper return of passion from the cruel maid—than to pick up some of this pennyroyal, find out the place where crocodiles resort, nail one of them by the tail to some stout tree, and in that situation to apply the pennyroyal to his nose, till he is too faint to hurt any body; the tooth required may then be drawn while he is living; and if the operator be of as merciful a disposition as a late noble duke is deservedly famous for having been, the nail may be afterwards drawn, and the harmless creature, like Mr. B.—r's louse, may be set at liberty again."*

A Way to catch Wild-ducks is also treated with much humour:—

"The Royal Society of London, having been at all times ready to promote useful arts, have published in the Philosophical Transactions, from time to time, a great variety of methods of taking birds, fishes, and other animals, useful for food, without the expense of nets or gunpowder. It would take up too much room were we to comment upon all these; we shall only select two in each kind, by way of specimen, and leave the candid reader to form from

* "The noble personage alluded to here, is the late Duke of Montagu, famous, among a thousand other amiable qualities, for his love to the whole animal creation, and for his being able to keep a very grave face, when he was not in the most serious earnest. Mr. B.—r, a very distinguished member of the Royal Society, had one day entertained this nobleman, and several other persons, with the sight of the peristaltic motion of the bowels in a louse by the microscope: when the observation was over, he was going to throw the creature away; but the duke, with a face that made him believe he was perfectly in earnest, told him, it would be not only cruel but ungrateful, in return for the entertainment that creature had given them, to destroy it. He ordered the boy to be brought in from whom it was procured, and, after praising the smallness and delicacy of Mr. B.—r's fingers, persuaded him carefully to replace the animal in its former territories, and to give the boy a shilling not to disturb it for a fortnight."

those his opinion of the rest. The first we shall deliver is a capital one, in every sense of the word, and is given pretty early in the works of this great body; so that it is an amazing thing that the indolent world has not yet brought it into practice: nothing can be more easy. The method is this:—Procure an earthen pot, or jar, that will come on upon your head so as to cover it completely; cut two holes in it for the advantage of seeing, and then fastening it about your neck with a bandage, take off your clothes, and walk into the river where the ducks are: take care to enter above them in the stream, and to skulk down in such a manner, that only your head, thus covered with the pot, be above water: thus move softly down to them, as if carried by the current, and they will only take the jar for some loose thing floating on the water. When you are among the thickest of them, take one by the legs and pull it under water, then seize upon another in the same manner, and so on, till you have taken the whole covey; and then march out again. This is an art of Indian origin. Mr. Strachan assures us it is practised to great advantage in the island of Ceylon; and strongly, under countenance of the authority of a Royal Society, recommends it to the practice of these nations. There is nothing of this kind that can be offered to the world, but a surly critic may find some disadvantages attending it: we are very certain, however, notwithstanding all that may be objected to this philosophical duck-hunting, that if the legislature will provide for no people's being employed in it, but such as are five feet and a half high; and for the making all the rivers frequented by wild ducks sound at the bottom, and just five feet deep; there will require nothing more than some art of making wild ducks less wild than they are at present, in order to the bringing the scheme into execution. If we might have leave, however, to add our thoughts as to an improvement in the very art itself, it should be, that the artist do not take the duck by the legs, for fear of some little squalling and fluttering in the pulling her under, which might fright the rest away; but that he take the opportunity of her thrusting her head under water, and pull her down that way; they will then come down without noise, and only seem to their companions to be diverting themselves with diving. If it be objected, that these opportunities are not likely to happen in deep water, nothing is so easy as to provide for them; the person need only carry a trencher with some food upon it, fastened by a string round his waist, so as to rise within five inches of the surface of the water; the ducks would be continually thrusting down their heads at this, and might be taken in any number."

Our next whimsical extract is—

"A Way of making Vines grow over the Roof of a House.—This is of the number of those most miraculous and amazing secrets which the Royal Society, conscious of the impossibility of any body's finding out for themselves, have been particularly copious in describing. The method is, let the vine grow up to the eaves of the house with a single stem, and then leave it to branch upon the tiles as much as it pleases. This wonderful secret is communicated in the ninety-third number of the Philosophical Transactions. Its author is Mr. Templer, the gentleman who, in another paper, instructs people to catch carp, by getting their fingers in at their gills, and tossing them out of the water—a thing which he assures them is very easy, after you have tickled the fish for some time."

The second part also treats of Arts; but of those, "the principles of which are laid down by the Royal Society,"—and among these we have a useful and practical (?) "Way to kill lions :—"

"Every man who has travelled in the east, or who has read the accounts published by people who have travelled there, must be sensible of the dangers men are continually exposed to, on those journeys, from lions and other beasts of prey. How ought the world to be sensible of its obligations to the Royal Society of London, for discovering, among the many other useful and necessary arts they have found out or improved, a method of freeing men from the dangers they are in, on such occasions, from those terrible beasts! We venture to say beasts, in the plural number, though that term somewhat exceeds our warrant; it is only lions that are mentioned in the receipt: but, as the lion is the king of beasts, we suppose all might be probably enough included under that word; and it appears so probable, that what will kill a lion will kill any other beast also, that we shall not fear to assert, it will be as good a safeguard from all the rest as from this terrible species. As with us, men frequently travel with a dog with them, by way of guard against any animal of our part of the world that might be troublesome; a porcupine is to be recommended to those people who travel the eastern deserts, as an animal useful in the same manner against the creatures of that part of the world. How good, how excellently wise is Nature (as Dr. Hughes exclaims, in his History of Barbadoes, on nearly a parallel occasion), to have provided in every country, for the use of that lord of the creation, man, such creatures as will serve for his defence against others that might be troublesome or hurtful to him! We are not, however, to do the Philosophical Transactions alone the honour of this most useful discovery; something is due to ourselves, as the compilers. The art itself is partly declared by an author in the Transactions, partly by that Pliny of later times, Al-drovandus, in his History of Quadrupeds. This great author tells us, that the porcupine, though a very grim creature to look at, may be easily tamed, and brought to follow a man about, and to understand every thing he bids him do; and the other great author, in the 129th number of these celebrated works, tells us, that this creature, so easily tamed, is able to destroy lions in an instant. The very express words he uses are, porcupines kill lions by darting their quills into their bodies. What is more natural than from these two accounts (the one of which we dare assert to be full as true as the other) to deduce, that there needs no more, to be in security from lions and other beasts of prey, than to train a pair of these creatures, teach them to throw out a quill at any thing that offends you, and then to march boldly into the den of the lion, if necessary, with this champion, who is able to destroy him at a blow? We ought not to omit mentioning, that the place where the porcupine is said to destroy the lions in this manner, is the country of Balsara,—a country where, as the same accurate and faithful writer, in the other papers printed in the same Transactions, informs us, cobwebs catch thrushes, and cows eat fish, where it takes three hundred seeds to raise one plant, and where ants eat up men alive. Such strange things do these travellers see!"

The way to poison a bath is a specimen of still greater absurdity :—

"The author who communicates this is the frequently-to-be-celebrated Mr. Glanvill. It stands in the forty-ninth number of the Transactions. The method is this :—Let a woman wash her hair with a mixture of beaten eggs and oatmeal, and go afterwards into a warm bath, and she will poison the water to such a degree, that there will be a stinking, noisome smell communicated to it, and a great quantity of a light and frothy sea-green matter will swim on it; the whole body of the water will also partake of this colour, and it will taint the very walls, tinging them green, and making them stink. One would wonder how so odd a process as this came ever to be found out: it is certainly beyond the reach of reason or philosophy to have arrived at, as there is nothing to lead to it: probably, like all other great discoveries, it was owing to accident: neither oatmeal nor eggs have any bad smell, unless people choose to use the latter when they are rotten, which does not seem very likely, any more than that they should ever choose to wash their hair with so odd a mixture at all. The author tells us, that the observation was made at the cross bath, in the town of Bath, and he unluckily observes soon after, that the water of this bath is apt, in summer, to cast up a great scum; he might have added, and to smell somewhat like rotten eggs, which is the case with all those waters, when a long dry season has rendered them stronger than they are at other times. We would venture considerable odds, that the observation the author mentions was made at this time of the year, and that the water coming up stronger and fouler than ordinary, and the heat helping it in fouling the wells, the good old women of the place attributed the mischief to some wicked creature of their own sex; and the good old woman of an author received it as gospel from them; and, as such, communicated it to the good old women of the Royal Society."

We have, perhaps, been diverted too far from the present time by these reminiscences of the past; but as the volume whence the extracts are taken is scarce (though we hope to be found in the library of the Royal Society), we trust that their amusing qualities will plead our excuse; and if they do not furnish our readers with much instruction, they will, at least, excite a hearty laugh.

Dr. Granville, *inter alia*, examines the revenues, the disbursements, and accounts, of the Royal Society, whose finances he considers to be as ill managed as its philosophical proceedings :—

"So imperfectly (he states) is the Society informed by its treasurers, acting under the direction of ill-digested statutes, of the state of its revenue and expenditure, at each anniversary meeting, that with difficulty can a fellow form an approximated idea of those two important points. Nor is it possible for any member to obtain a positive and authenticated return of the different items of such expenditure, and of each separate source of revenue. The treasurer's strong box and his ledger are hermetically sealed, like Aladdin's cave, against every fellow not of the council, and no 'Open, seshame!' can avail. Collating, however, the reports of the treasurers as they appear on the minutes of the general meetings of the Society, and adopting the numbers mentioned in those reports in the summary manner in which they appear in those documents, I have drawn up the two following columns of receipts and expenses of the Royal Society for the last thirty years, beginning with the year 1800."

The total makes a receipt of 81,937*l.* 15*s.* and an expenditure of 64,799*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*; and the author goes on to observe :—

"In the above column of receipts the gross sums are entered, including the balance left in the treasurer's hand from the preceding year. Hence, when compared with the column of expenditure, it would appear as if a balance of 17,138*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* remained in favour of the Society; whereas, in reality, I believe, a very trifling balance remains in the hands of that officer available to the Society, out of the prodigious sum of nearly 65,000*l.* expended in the course of thirty years! And for what purposes has such a large sum of money been expended by the Society? What control has the Society exercised over such an expenditure during that time? To the latter question the answer is brief—None whatever. To the former question, the reply is not so easy. If to publish hot-pressed pages, and numerous unnecessary splendid plates, be a purpose, then there is one answer to the question of expenditure. If to publish the president's speeches, at a cost three times as large as need be, with an intention of selling the copies afterwards to the fellows, who care not to buy them, be a purpose, then there is another answer to the question of expenditure. If to regild frames, varnish portraits, furnish up old furniture, brush up the mace, recover velvet-cushions, provide a three-cornered hat for the president, be a purpose, then there is a third answer to the question of expenditure. In fine, if to pay upwards of 400*l.* per annum to three secretaries (one of which offices, though important, has been made a complete sinecure for the last twelve or fifteen years), one assistant secretary, and a clerk, with a porter and housekeeper, be a purpose, then there is a fourth answer to the question of expenditure. But, in good truth, we are left to guess at the real purposes of so large an expenditure of money, which would have gone nigh to pay the salaries of sixty members of the Institute of France for the same period of time, at the rate of twelve hundred francs per annum—not including the *jetons*, or fees, which those academicians receive at each meeting of their body. How different, however, are the results to science in the country in which similar large sums have been applied to support the Institute! and how proportionately large a return to science has resulted from the men so remunerated! For the honour of the Society's officers (for in good troth the Society itself has no control over the matter), it is to be hoped, that the 20th and the 28th, the 30th and 34th charges contained in the bill of impeachment against the president and councils of the Royal Society, published by Sir James South, will be explained satisfactorily, or shewn to rest on some mistaken notion of the worthy knight. Else we should have, collectively, another and very comprehensive answer to the proposed question of, 'To what purpose is so large an expenditure incurred?' The first of those four charges implies, that hundreds of pounds of the Society's money have been converted into 'white bait, rose-water, and Sauterne' (I should say bad Barsac), by the said president and council. The 2d, 3d, and 4th of those charges imply, that thousands of the public money have been spent by the same authorities in some floundering experiments for the manufacturing of glass for optical purposes: but whether this public money be the Society's money or otherwise, the accuser sayeth not. The last of those charges avers, that a sum of 2600*l.* of the Society's money (for what object it is not stated) was paid away

without investigation last year by the accused president and councils. *Nous verrons.*"

And here again we must pause, reserving the conclusion till next Saturday.

Address to the People of Great Britain, explanatory of our Commercial Relations with the Empire of China, and of the Course of Policy by which it may be rendered an almost unbounded Field for British Commerce. By a Visitor to China. 8vo. pp. 127. London, 1836. Smith, Elder, and Co.

THE new epoch which has arrived in Indian affairs, which most materially affect our intercourse with China, and which, indeed, has already caused no inconsiderable movement in that direction, renders every work of real intelligence and information upon the subject important to the general interests of the empire—not the Celestial, but the British empire. Into this category the present writer obviously falls: and while we confess our inability to decide upon several of the questions he moots, we think we may safely say that his statements and arguments are of an order to deserve the attention of government, and of all parties concerned in Chinese relations. Whether the past has been managed wisely or indiscreetly, it is not for us to determine, for we are not acquainted with the grounds of the proceedings, nor with the justification which might be offered for steps which our author arraigns, and which, on the face of his account of them, seem frequently to have been marked by strange pusillanimity and want of judgment and spirit. But China is a curious country, and the Chinese a people so difficult to deal with, that it would be absurd to apply to them the rules and principles which would hold good with every other nation. Like their intricate rings, balls within balls, and other toys, they are a standing puzzle; and lucky is the merchant, ambassador, or stranger, who can discover the method of understanding and unlocking them. The author, in the end, is earnest in recommending greater decision than has hitherto been observed in our commercial struggles at Canton; and if we accept the data of his earlier views, it is hardly possible to come to any other conclusion. He sets out with a sketch of China as it exists, with its immense territory and wonderfully dense and numerous population, which he follows by an interesting glance at the history of the European trade carried to its shores from the first Portuguese visit, in 1517, to the present day; and contends that there is nothing, if properly managed, to prevent a prodigious and lucrative traffic being established.

"The Chinese employed in our Indian foundries and dockyards have proved to be excellent workmen; but mere manual labour cannot compete with the powers of the steam-engine. The hardware of Sheffield and Birmingham must therefore one day supersede the native tools and cutlery of China. Surpassing, in short, the Chinese in every branch of art and science, as well as in capital and machinery, there is scarcely an article, food excepted, that can administer to the wants or tastes of man, that the manufacturers of England may not supply to them of a quality and at a price that will ensure an almost unlimited demand. It does not, indeed, seem too much to expect that even the porcelain of Keang Se may, at last, in China as in Europe, give place to the stoneware of Worcestershire or Staffordshire; or that English silk stuffs may, at no distant period, be bartered for the raw silk of Kyang Nan. Against the reality of such brilliant prospects it may perhaps be urged, that experience shews them to be illusory. The East India Company say they made the most patriotic efforts to introduce British goods into China, but were unable, even at the willing sacrifice of large sums in the experiment, to force any considerable quantity on that market. Nor is it a sufficient answer to this fact, to allege, in explanation, the want of skill and economy that pervaded every part of the trading system pursued by those merchant-sovereigns. The enterprising traders of the United States have also failed in this object, though neither prudence nor judgment was wanting in the attempt. To this argument, there is an obvious and conclusive reply. Neither

the East India Company, nor any other merchants, have as yet been permitted, correctly speaking, to trade with China. Their dealings have been conducted with about a dozen individuals, whose residence, indeed, is in that country, but who ought to be considered rather in the light of slaves to the officers of the local government, than as merchants. The experiment cannot be regarded as fairly made, till the free-trader can legitimately pursue the natural liberty of trafficking where, with whom, and in what objects of commerce may best suit his interest; secure from all molestation so long as he offends against no rational law of the country, and sure of redress should wrong be offered to him. How different from such conditions are those under which commerce with China has hitherto been conducted! Obligated to limit their resort to a single port, lying at a distance of fifteen hundred miles from the capital, foreigners are even there prohibited from dealing with any native who is not of the privileged number of hong merchants, half of whom are believed to be in insolvent circumstances."

The errors and blots which have marked this system are particularised and strongly dwelt upon; though we can only select a few of the many remarkable illustrations:—

"In 1755, there occurred a case of homicide, in which an English sailor was killed by a French officer, made memorable by the extraordinary indiscretion of the English supercargoes in appealing to the Chinese authorities for redress, or rather punishment of the offender; in consequence of which an innocent Frenchman was seized and executed by the Chinese. The hong monopoly was found to operate most injuriously on the trade, and in 1756, another ineffectual effort was made to obtain permission to deal with all merchants indiscriminately. In this endeavour, the French, Dutch, Swedish, and Prussian merchants co-operated. The influence of the hong and the interests of the happy frustrated the attempts of the united foreigners. The supercargoes had to wait for seven hours before an interview could be obtained with the viceroy. In reply to their petition, they received very fair promises, which, however, were never fulfilled; and all that was in the end granted, was liberty to deal with the shopkeepers in small wares, but not for Company's exports or imports. The same exception and distinction are continued to the present day. What then becomes of the pretext of the expediency of preventing traitorous intercourse? Treason, one might think, would be as easily hatched in cheapening a watch or a piece of silk, as over a bargain for tea or broad-cloths. Falsehood is almost consistent. One of the grounds for placing Englishmen under the tuition of their brokers or linguists, was their ignorance of the laws consequent on their ignorance of the language. A Chinese schoolmaster, however, who was at this time engaged in teaching two English gentlemen, was intimidated from further attendance, on the ground that teaching European languages might lead to their complaints reaching and troubling the court of Peking. It appears to have been about this period that Mr. Frederick Pigou, one of the supercargoes, suggested the expediency of an embassy to Peking. Taking a hint from the former proposition of the merchants to Mr. Misenor, he recommended that the year 1761, should the emperors—mother live so long—would afford a good occasion for the mission, as her majesty would then have obtained another decade of years. A still better opportunity, however, he observed, would be offered by the accession of a new emperor; in proof of which he cites the fact that the ten per cent duty had been remitted by Kien Lung, the reigning emperor, on the occasion of his accession. Mr. Pigou very judiciously urged that, instead of acting on Mr. Misenor's illiberal and short-sighted policy, it would be both expedient in itself, and honourable to the nation, if the same privileges and favours were procured for the merchants of other European states as for our own. He argued that it would, at all events, be sound policy not to make enemies of the countrymen of the Jesuit missionaries, who enjoyed great favour at the court of Peking. Mr. Pigou recommended that the ambassador should be sent in the king's name; that, as now suggested by the private merchants of Canton, he should be a person who had never been in the Company's service, nor belonged to one of their ships; that he should be a man of some rank and figure—perhaps a military man, a person of understanding and probity, and not too haughty in his personal demeanour. The Chinese are great practical physiognomists, in the extended sense of the word, and are apt to deduce the complexion a man's character from his general appearance. Mr. Pigou's hints are therefore well worthy of attention. We may add, that a full-sized figure, with a grave and commanding, yet urbane air, gives the Chinese the *beau idéal* of a great personage. Red hair they hold in abhorrence. Originally it was considered as a distinguishing trait of the Dutch, but their general reputation as an epitome of red-bristled barbarians has been transferred to the English. A nervous envoy ought never to be employed on a Chinese mission; unless when failure, in order to give ground for some deep stroke of policy, is secretly desired."

"In 1773 occurred the first of the cases already alluded to of the judicial murder of a foreigner by the Chinese. A native had been murdered at Macao, and suspicion fell on an Englishman named Thomas Scott. The accused was examined and depositions taken, but not a trace of evidence was found against Scott. The mandarins, however, threatened the city, unless the party who had been suspected was given up to them. Some members of the Portuguese senate urged that it would be unjust-

fiable to consent to the sacrifice of an innocent man; but these were over-ruled by the holy vicar-general, who prevailed on the majority to adopt the principle, that the life of an individual, however innocent, was not to be weighed against the safety of the state. Honour and conscience were disregarded in the estimate of the man of God and his friends. Scott was given up and executed. In 1780, a Frenchman who had in a fray killed another sailor, a Portuguese, was, after some hesitation, given over to the mandarins by the French consul, and was forthwith, without any formal trial, strangled by order of the Foo Yuen."

The giving up of the gunner of the Lady Hughes, whom the Chinese strangled for accidentally killing a native in firing one of the ship's guns, was a still more melancholy instance of submissiveness, and led to the worst effects in cherishing the insolent pretensions of the Chinese. Lord Amherst's embassy, and the late mission of Lord Napier, are also described as having been conducted in a manner not the best calculated to ensure success in dealing with this somewhat incomprehensible people. What ought to have been and ought to be done, on the contrary, is thus summed up by our author, who says (leaving out a few details):—

"It will be found that it contains nothing incompatible with the honour or interests of China, unless bare compensation for injury can by any possibility be so considered."

"Objects of the Expedition or Mission.

"1st. To obtain a recognition of the King of England as the independent sovereign of a civilised nation."

"As such, his style is, 'Wang Te'."

"His address, 'Elder Brother, mutually with the Emperor of China.'"

"English people must no longer be called *Ee*, or *Mancee*, but 'Ying Le Jin,' men of the English nation."

"They must no longer be treated as *Man-see* (barbarians), but must have the same right to protection from wrongs as natives."

"They must not, therefore, be placed under the control of native merchants, but must be answerable to the regular tribunals, each for his own acts."

"Natives must not be held responsible to the government for the conduct of Englishmen."

"Natives must not be excited to treat Englishmen with aversion or contempt, by any proclamation stigmatising them as prone to vice, or denying to them any privilege enjoyed by natives. Thus all causes of disturbance will be avoided, as far as these arise from the insults which foolish, idle, and mischievous people have hitherto been led to think they can offer with impunity to any foreigner."

"Englishmen may freely inquire what articles of foreign produce or manufacture would be acceptable to the people of China."

"They may ascertain what prices could be obtained for such articles, in order that they may know whether they can afford to import them into China; those rates a native shall be liable to punishment for affording, or procuring for them, such information."

"They may freely inquire what articles of produce or manufacture are procurable in the various provinces of China, and at what prices, that they may know which of them will suit the foreign market. No native shall be liable to punishment for giving, or procuring, such information."

"By the adoption of these two rules, the poor of China may be supplied with warm and cheap clothing in return for the produce of their skill and labour; while the rich may be able to procure greater comforts from the expenditure of their money; whereas, by the keeping prices secret, all consumers are obliged to pay extravagant prices, to the enrichment of useless middle men at their expense, and are unable to obtain fair value either for their own money, or for their goods."

"2d. To require an apology for the treatment of Lord Napier, as Commissioner of the King of England."

"As such, Lord Napier was a *Kin Chae*, who, according to Chinese rules of etiquette, takes precedence of all other official ranks, governors of provinces included. None but independent sovereigns, holding imperial sway, can use the word *Kin*, in its application to their envoys or commissioners, but, *e converso*, all sovereigns of independent empires signify that independence by the use of that word. There is none higher; therefore, none other admissible on the part of the sovereign of the British empire."

"As *Kin Chae* of an independent sovereign, not inferior in any respect to the sovereign of China, no viceroy can refuse to correspond, and to interview, with the English commissioner."

"No mandarin of inferior rank, far less hong merchants, can be interposed as a medium of communication; while, on the contrary, it will be the duty of the hoppo to wait on the commissioner when any matter regarding trade is to be discussed."

"So also the *Gan-Cha-Sze* must wait on the commissioner when any matter relative to criminal justice, as regards Englishmen, is under deliberation."

"So likewise the *Nan hae Heen* on subjects of police."

"3d. Compensation must be made for the losses caused to British merchants by the stoppage of the trade while Lord Napier was at Canton, and for some time after his departure.

"The trade must not in future be stopped, without giving merchants sufficient warning, so that no more ships may be sent out from England, on the faith of its continuance, and that the cargoes already arrived, and on their way, may be disposed of, and their value realised.

"No new imposts, burdens, or impediments of any kind, must be laid on commerce without similar notice,—say, of, at the least, eighteen months.

"The trade shall not be at any time stopped capriciously, or for any reasons incompatible with a friendly feeling towards the British nation.

"If such a measure be adopted with a view of inflicting an injury on the English nation, it must, of course, be considered as an act of hostility.

"4th. Until particular rules are framed by the consent of both governments, British subjects shall not, for any wrong done either to another British subject, or to a Chinese subject, be liable to more severe punishment than is applicable to the like offence by the laws of England.

"Torture being contrary to the British law, must not, in any shape or degree, be resorted to, where a British subject is implicated.

"Where British subjects have not rendered themselves amenable to the laws, their acts shall not be visited with punishment on the natives they have employed, or who have been joined with them in their lawful acts.

"On the death of any British subject, having no legal representative on the spot, the Chinese authorities shall give over charge of his property to the British commissioner, or any other person by him appointed.

"No British subject shall be called upon to conform to any ceremony or practice inconsistent with the religion he professes, and with the usages, in like cases, of his country.

"All British subjects shall be at entire liberty to observe, without molestation, their own civil and religious usages, when these may be followed without any injury to the people of China.

"5th. No hoppo, or other authority whatever, shall be at liberty to impose any tax, or duty, direct or indirect, on any foreign ships or vessels, on any articles of export or import, or any boats, coolies, or other conveyance of goods, other than, or different from, the prescribed imperial tariff.

"The consou fund must be abolished.

"The tariff must be rendered simple, clear, and intelligible, so that no merchant can doubt the amount of duty to which his goods are liable.

"In case of dispute, the merchant may require the hoppo to take the article in question at his own valuation, with an addition of 12 per cent for the profit of the importer.

"If any public officer whatever, or any person pretending to be a public officer, shall ask or accept a fee, not publicly imposed, or any present or exaction whatever from any British subject, or from persons in the employ of, or dealing with, a British subject.

"6th. Vessels not engaged in trade shall pay the ordinary pilotage, but no other duty or charge whatever. They shall be freely allowed to purchase refreshments and articles requisite for repair or refit, and to hire workmen for such purpose.

"7th. Merchant vessels shall pay shipping charges of all kinds, according to their real size, as ascertained by their certificate of registry. None of the persons engaged in supplying them with provisions, or stores, shall be subject to any fee for exaction whatever in that capacity.

"The cumsha, which was originally an authorised exaction for the private benefit of the hoppo, is a heavy addition to the tax paid by native vessels. Let a tax on goods be substituted for it; but, in the meantime, let it be graduated according to measurement. It is bad policy to continue the present high charges on small ships, because it induces them to evade all charges by not coming into harbour at all, and to carry on illicit trade outside.

"Commanders of vessels shall be at perfect liberty to engage their own compradores and linguists, on such terms as may be mutually agreed upon.

"In case of the fraudulent, or other improper conduct of compradores, their employers shall have immediate redress from a Chinese officer, whose station may be in the neighbourhood of the shipping, inasmuch as justice would be defeated by the smallest delay when ships are on the eve of departure.

"8th. British subjects may take their families to any place where they reside themselves, and may employ any sort of vehicle they may find agreeable or convenient, as freely as natives.

"When the sumptuary laws of China prescribe certain equipages for particular ranks, they must be conformed to by British subjects. It will be the duty of the commissioner to examine the pretensions of each individual, and to certify the class of equipage that his rank may entitle him to maintain.

"9th. British subjects may visit any part of the country under passports signed by the British commissioner, and countersigned by the Chinese authority at the place.

"Such travelling passports must, of course, specify the

place to which the traveller is desirous of proceeding, and the time required for his journey. Should further time become necessary, such extension must be granted, and noted, by the chief authority of the place in which it is applied for.

"10th. A British subject desirous of residing for a lawful object in any part of the country, shall report himself in person to the chief magistrate of the place, specifying his lodging, and shall do the same as often as he may change his lodging; but shall not thereafter be in any way molested or controlled in his pursuits, so long as they are conducted in a lawful and inoffensive manner.

"11th. British ships may proceed to any port in China at which an imperial custom-house has been established, and land and ship goods as freely, and on the same terms, as at Canton. Should there be no British commissioner or deputy commissioner at such port, British subjects that may be charged with any offences must be sent for trial to the nearest port at which a British commissioner resides.

"12th. British traders may have boats, or other conveyance, to carry goods from any one port of the country to another, paying the same rates of transit duties as natives."

We have only to add the author's conclusion:

"After what has been stated, there is little required to shew the justice and propriety of these articles, in our desire to carry on a commercial intercourse with China, on a footing consistent with honour, security, and advantage, national and individual. Those are the prizes: it rests with the voice of the country to determine whether the present glorious opportunity for their attainment shall be availed of; or whether, like so many others that have preceded it, it shall, to the injury alike of China and of England, be permitted to pass unimproved: leaving the British name and British interests to sink still lower in the scale of degradation than the point to which short-sighted avarice and imbecility have already reduced them."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Youthful Impostor, a Novel, by G. W. M. Reynolds. 3 vols. 12mo. (London, Coghlan).—In addition to the two schools of the classical and romantic, a third has sprung up; for which the most sounding and suitable epithet we can find is the preposterous. The novel now before us belongs to this last school. Plot, characters, and incidents, are all cast in the same mould; the story is that of the "fortunate youth," whose pretended legacy, and subsequent deception, were, some years ago, a "bonne fortune" for the newspapers. Not, however, content with this, he is also made a parricide and a highwayman. We give, however, the author credit for the perfect keeping of the whole, there not being one portion to which any other epithet could be applied than that of preposterous.

Antipathy; or, the Confessions of a Cat-Hater, edited by John Ainslie, Esq., author of "Aurungzebe," &c. 3 vols. 12mo. (London, Macrone).—When we think how many requisites are needed to form an amusing novel, we cannot wonder that there are so many failures. How few people can even tell a story, and there are still fewer who can write one. There is much in the work before us that indicates a sensible and well-informed man; but the narrative lacks power and interest, and the incidents too frequently verge on the absurd. As to the dislike to cats, which gives name to the book, it leads to the hero's killing two or three in a very brutal and disgusting manner, but to nothing else. Indeed, most of the characters abound in contradictions and discrepancies—the usual mistake in writers whose powers of invention do not exceed the commonplace. We fear, in the case of the present work, as in many others, the public will meet *Antipathy* with indifference.

Lexilogus; or, a Critical Examination of the Meaning and Etymology of numerous Greek Words and Passages, intended principally for Homer and Herodotus, by Philip Buttmann, LL.D., late Professor in the University of Berlin, &c. Translated and edited, with explanatory Notes and copious Indexes, by the Rev. J. R. Fishlake, late Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford. 8vo. pp. 597. (London, Murray).—It has always been a matter of surprise to us that this most useful work should have existed so long ere it was placed before the classical student in an English dress.

Many years have elapsed since the original German was published, and we should have imagined that within that period the well-known reputation of Dr. Buttmann as a philologist would have caused it to be translated. As we have waited so long for its appearance, it is, at any rate, the more welcome. To those who may not be aware of the exact nature of the work it may be requisite to state, that it is not a mere "Classical Homerica" for the use of schools; on the contrary, as the translator justly remarks, "While every reader of Homer, nay, every student of Greek, will find in the philological investigations of the *Lexilogus* new and valuable information, without which he can never thoroughly understand the language either in its Epic infancy or its Attic vigour; at the same time, it will prove to the really critical reader an invaluable guide and companion in exploring the deeply hidden treasures of ancient Greek literature. He will be delighted and astonished at the profound research, the extensive erudition, and solid judgment, with which each word, and each family of words, is examined and traced from the old Epic poetry through every succeeding stage of the language, through every writer in which it occurs, and every analogy in which it

can be advantageously composed. He will find a novel system of investigation, admirably calculated to ascertain on the surest grounds the true sense of an author, reconciling discrepancies and solving difficulties which have baffled the ingenuity of ancients and moderns." Dr. Fishlake has executed his portion of the task in a highly creditable manner; he has succeeded in that most difficult art—that of making his translation so purely English, that it is nearly impossible for any one who did not know that the original was in German to be able to discover it; this cannot be said of all translations. Of the work itself, the passage which we have quoted from Dr. Fishlake's Preface will give a sufficient idea. We should have been glad could we have afforded room for extracts; the articles are, however, too long for our columns: we can only refer our readers to the *Lexilogus* itself, which we trust will not be long in finding its way to the library table of every classical student.

The Chronology of the Old Testament and its Connexion with Profane History, by G. Skene. Pp. 223. (Edinburgh, Laing and Forbes).—In this the author differs materially from Josephus and other chronologists and commentators. He refers to the Hebrew original as the most correct source of information, and contends that its dates are most reconcilable with those of ancient profane authors.

Flora Metropolitana, &c., by D. Cooper. Pp. 130. (London, Hignley).—A very useful guide to the practical botanist, shewing him what flowers he will find in all the principal localities within thirty miles of London. A list of land and fresh-water shells in the environs of town adds much to its value: the list amounts to a hundred and thirty-three.

Cresingham Rectory, by E. A. Hendry. Pp. 110. (London, Hatchards).—In the shape of family conversations, instils moral precepts, and conveys lessons in history, geography, &c. &c. pleasantly.

A Letter to Andrew Dick, Esq. on his Dissertation on Church Polity, by the Rev. J. Collinson, M.A. Pp. 152. (London, Rivingtons).—The rector of Gateshead shews himself an able defender of the church of which he is a member. His little volume discusses the question with much skill.

Hughes's Continuation of Hume and Smollett's History of England, Vol. XIX. (London, Valpy).—This volume embraces a most eventful period, from 1807 to 1813; how stirring and how glorious, is yet in the memory of every Briton!

Roberts's Modern Novelists, Nos. XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI.—Four of six Novels, in which Horace Smith's novel of *Brumflete House*, is to be comprised. This, the best production of the author in the line of fiction connected with historical recollections, is embellished with his portrait, and several characteristic groups—the latter not over well engraved; but, then, the price of the work altogether is not the cost of a very middling print!

A Manual of British Vertebrate Animals; or, Descriptions of all the Animals belonging to the Classes Mammalia, Ave, Reptilia, Amphibia, and Pisces, which have been hitherto observed in the British Islands; including the Domesticated, Naturalised, and Extinct Species; the whole systematically arranged, by the Rev. Leonard Jenyns, M.A. &c. 8vo. pp. 539. (Cambridge, Deighton; London, Longman).—This is a very valuable addition to the works already existing in this department of our Fauna. It was very much wanted in the present advanced state of our knowledge. It is very carefully and accurately compiled, the descriptions being evidently in the majority of cases taken from the life. In his arrangement, the author has not slavishly adhered to any particular system of classification; but has selected what he has deemed most advisable from those of Cuvier, Gray, Macleay, Vigors, Swainson, and Selby. We can conscientiously recommend it to all lovers of natural history, to whom it will prove a most useful guide.

Plato's Apology of Socrates, Crito, and Phædo, translated from the Greek, by Charles Stuart Stanford, Clk. A.M. &c. 8vo. pp. 210. (Dublin, Curry).—The excellence of Mr. Stanford's Greek edition of the above splendid specimens of the Platonic philosophy led us to expect at least an equal superiority in the translation before us, but we have been disappointed. The English reader will now be able fully to relish the beauties of Plato's style and arguments. We hope Mr. Stanford will not stop here, but present us with some more of the dialogues.

The Works of Pindar, with various Readings, Notes, and Emendations, by Alexander Negris. 12mo. pp. 156. (Edinburgh, Clark; London, Simpkin).—Pindar is one of those poets who is more renowned than read, and an acquaintance with his works is more often boasted of than in reality enjoyed. Perhaps this may have proceeded from the peculiar difficulties besetting the reader of this poet: an obscure and corrupt text, dark and indistinct allusion, are some of these obstacles. Mr. Negris has conferred a lasting obligation on literature by producing his present very excellent edition, in which he has combined the purest text with a number of highly useful and instructive notes. The editor is already advantageously known by his editions of Herodotus and Xenophon's *Anabasis*, and his present production will in no wise tend to diminish his reputation.

A Guide to the Charitable and Religious Societies, Hospitals, &c. of London, by J. Brownlow. (London, S. Low).—It is grateful to the feelings to observe that this useful Guide occupies a volume of two hundred and twenty-three pages; so numerous are the benevolent institutions in the British metropolis. It seems to be very accurate, full of the needful information, well arranged and indexed for convenient reference.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

Mr. TWING in the chair.—Mr. Taylor on recent improvements in the machinery of mines. After a few words on the origin and progress of mining, Mr. Taylor directed the attention of his numerous auditory to the introduction of the steam-engine, which, of all other contrivances, was the most important and effective in raising to its discharge that immense volume of water which constantly flows in upon the miners, impeding and frequently overwhelming them. Savory's was one of the first steam-engines so employed—it was called "the miner's friend." Smeaton had calculated that the quantity of water thrown up by steam previously to recent improvements was in the ratio of 5,500,000 lbs. 1 foot high, to every bushel of coals consumed. These marvellous improvements, however, have been carried to such a height, that the above ratio is now increased to 90,000,000 lbs.; and in short experiments, made in some of the English mines last year, it appears that the quantity was 125,000,000 lbs. With this surprising advance in the working of mines, copper is as high in price now as it was in the days of William and Mary, viz. 120l. per ton. Mr. Taylor's statement was rendered very interesting by the variety of statistical details it embraced, drawn from parliamentary returns and other authentic sources, in reference to the mines of Mexico, Germany, Devonshire, Cumberland, and Cornwall. A beautifully executed map of the ramifications of the consolidated mines of the latter place was exhibited and ably explained. Some idea of the magnitude of these mines may be formed from the fact, that they are 45 miles in extent, and that the principal shaft is 290 fathoms below the level of the sea. Several other interesting particulars were mentioned; among which we may notice a method of expelling foul air from the shafts of mines (the invention of the lecturer, and which, some years since, obtained a prize from the Society), and a recently proposed and very ingenious mode of raising the workmen from the bottom of the shaft, by which they will be spared the necessity, as at present, of climbing to the surface by many hundred steps—a labour so severe, especially to men already exhausted with their day's work, as to deter all but the young and vigorous from descending to the greater depths. The lecture was illustrated by some beautiful models; and several choice specimens of native silver, copper, &c. were placed on the table.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

On Monday, the Rev. F. W. Hope, president, in the chair.—Numerous donations of books from the Geological Society, French Entomological Society, Natural History Society of Boston (United States), &c. were announced, and thanks ordered to be returned for the same. A great variety of rare and remarkable insects were exhibited, including specimens of *Francillon's* kangaroo beetle, by Mr. Children, and various new species of *Pausside*, by Mr. Westwood. Seven members were elected. Specimens of a curious lepidopterous caterpillar from New Zealand were also exhibited by Mr. Children, from the neck of which a long vegetable twig-like appendage had been produced, which appeared to be allied to the genus *Clavaria*. Considerable discussion took place upon this subject, with a view to the solution of the question at what period and in what situation the germs of this plant had been deposited, and

whether this had taken place within or upon the body of the insect. Various instances of a similar nature were mentioned; including the *Mouche végétant* of the French colonists, by whom it is asserted that the plant grows within, and at length protrudes from the bodies of living wasps. The following memoirs were then read:—1. On the Golofa beetle of Venezuela, and other allied species; by the president, by whom a fine series of these singular cornuted insects were exhibited. 2. Notice of the explosive properties of *Brachinus crepitans*, observed several days after the death of the insect; by Frederick Holme, Esq. 3. Description of a new species of water-beetle from Cambridge-shire; by C. C. Babington, Esq. 4. Descriptions of new, and notices of other remarkable, orthopterous insects; by Mr. G. R. Gray. 5. Observations upon the economy of a South American species of the coleopterous genus, *Upis*; with a few remarks upon fruit-devouring insects in general; by Mr. Westwood.

MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

MARCH 8.—Earl Stanhope in the chair.—Dr. Morries, the professor of toxicology, made some observations on opium, digitalis, conium, and hyoscyamus, and exhibited specimens of oils obtained from the latter plants. The empyreumatic oil of hyoscyamus is of a light yellow colour, highly volatile, and possesses a most powerful penetrating viscid odour, which is readily perceptible at some distance, even when the bottle is closed. It is nearly as rapidly fatal as Prussic acid—eight or nine drops will destroy life in an hour and a half; but a much more active poison can be obtained by distilling the oil with potassa, in which case the same quantity will cause death in from half a minute to two minutes.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, March 3d.—Mr. G. N. Phillips, of Merton College, was admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

CAMBRIDGE, March 2d.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelor in Divinity.—Rev. J. Prendergast, Queen's College.

Master of Arts.—J. H. Willan, St. John's College.

Bachelor in the Civil Law.—H. Penfold, Trinity Hall.

Bachelors of Arts.—Rev. S. H. Widdington, Magdalen College (comp.); J. P. Royle, and H. C. Arden, Trinity College; C. W. Lamprell, Clare Hall; G. W. Kerridge, Trinity Hall; T. Blackall, Caius College; R. J. Harrison, Emmanuel College.

The Rev. S. Reay, M.A., of St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, ad eundem.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

MR. L. HAYES PETIT in the chair.—On Thursday, and at the preceding meeting, Mr. Hamilton read the continuation and conclusion of M. Brünsted's very interesting paper on the River Styx. Here the learned writer pushed his inquiries into the mythos of this celebrated water. He shewed, from Homer, that it was the most solemn and awful oath of the gods; and quoted Hesiod, Pindar, Apollonius Rhodius, and other ancient authors, in illustration of the same point. It was also an ordeal of the utmost sanctity and terror among men, as was proved by the oath of Cleomenes, related by Herodotus; and where the Styx was not, the priests often declared that the waters they employed in such rites were Stygia. M. Brünsted next examined the most remarkable accounts given of its supernatural power, of its dissolving all hard substances, excepting a certain sort of horn; its drastic qualities, and its being imputed fatal to living creatures. Pausanias, Theophrastus (the pupil of Aristotle, and his

successor as head of the peripatetics), quoted by Callimachus, Pliny (who alone says it contained poisonous fishes), Strabo, Porphyry, &c. &c., were produced on these topics, in a delightful series of classic illustration. It appeared impossible to determine what kind of horn it was which was said to resist the corrosive Styx, whether of the horse, the ass, or some other animal; and the story of Alexander being poisoned by Antipater by water from the river, brought in the hoof of a horse, was referred to as an improbable fiction. At all events, it is certain that this spring near Nonacris was the most ancient ordeal of gods and men; though, by a chemical analysis by M. Oerstadt, its dreadful effects can now only be traced to its being very hard, and innocently impregnated with iron and lime. Still the Arcadians consider it to be noxious and fatal; but this is the traditional effect of what the priests involved in mystery and popular credulity, as usual, exaggerated. Thanks were voted to M. Brünsted, who was present, for this communication.

Parts of a descriptive catalogue of books and MSS., collected by Bruce in Abyssinia, were read. It referred to Ethiopic versions of the Bible, the Book of Enoch, &c., and was extremely curious both to the biblical scholar and the philologist.

A paper, by Mr. Cullamore, on two pieces of Egyptian antiquity, in the possession of Mr. Sams, was also read. From these sculptures of Scarabei, &c., Mr. Cullamore contended that the Egyptians, three centuries before Christ, knew that the sun was the centre of our system, and that the earth's course was elliptical. He also thought that they fixed an important era in Egyptian chronology, the period of Thothmes III., and shewed how advantageously astronomy might be brought to confirm or refute historical statements. Thanks were voted to the writer for this able exposition.

Presents were received—members elected—candidates proposed—and other routine business transacted.

LITERARY FUND.

On Wednesday the general annual meeting of the subscribers, &c. to the Fund, took place; when the auditors' report was read, and was highly satisfactory. The Fund has been augmented by several considerable bequests within the last twelve months, and a donation of 20l. was this day announced from Lord Carrington, one of the vice-presidents. The usual routine of receiving reports and notices, &c. being gone through, the election of officers for the ensuing year took place. The Duke of Somerset was re-elected president, and all the vice-presidents (there being, happily, no vacancy in their ranks) were re-elected. The council, lessened by the election of Sir Henry Ellis to be one of the treasurers in the room of Mr. Ilderton Burn, resigned, and by the deaths of L. A. de la Chaumette and R. Blanshard, Esqrs., was (after the re-election of the remaining members) filled up from the seniors in the general committee, T. Gaspey, R. Blackmore, and J. Murray, jun. Esqrs.; and Sir H. Ellis was succeeded in the general committee, in which there must, by the charter, be four of the members of the council, by W. Jerdan, Esq. The vacancies in the committee, caused by the foregoing promotions into the council, and by the death of R. Lemon, Esq., were filled up by the election of Sir R. P. Jodrell, J. Gwilt, J. Gough Nichols, and Henry Rhodes, Esqrs. The registrars and auditors were re-elected; and thanks being voted to the chairman, G. Woodfall, Esq., the meeting was adjourned.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

ON Saturday last a general meeting was held, Mr. C. W. Williams Wynn, president, in the chair. A donation from Captain Davy, of the Bengal army, consisting of several Javanese, Persian, and English MSS., was laid upon the table; also the liberal bequest of the late Major David Price, comprising eighty-three volumes of valuable oriental MSS., chiefly Persian. The president announced that the late Lieut.-Col. James Tod had bequeathed to the Society all his books, MSS., and coins, on oriental subjects of which the Society did not possess duplicates. Members were elected. A selection from the manuscripts presented to the Society by Captain James Low, comprising notices of the trade and manufactures, and the laws and religion, of the people on the Tenasserim coast, was read to the meeting. According to these papers, it appears that the trade of the Tenasserim coast is almost exclusively maritime. The principal manufacture is that of cloth, woven chiefly by women, who are taught to spin from their infancy. There is scarcely a house in these provinces which has not a loom in it. Of late years, piece goods, in imitation of the Burman fabrics, have been sent out from England, and being cheap the natives buy them; but they complain that the colours are not durable, and that the cloth does not last so long as their own. The average of a late general estimate of the value of the imports and exports of Tenasserim, gave,—imports, 650,000 rupees; exports, 175,000: leaving 475,000 rupees as the balance of imports over exports,—a drain which the natural resources of the country alone could not support. Much of the ability of the natives to meet the former with bullion, depended, therefore, on the accidental stimulus of a civil and military expenditure. The internal trade is principally carried on by barter. Under the Burmese government bullion was not allowed to be exported. Captain Low considers that the Burman code of laws has been derived from some version of the ancient code of *Menu*; but that, as the latter was framed for a race of men differing in many essential points from the Burmans, it must have undergone considerable modification when adapted to them. He states, that the utmost venality and perversion of justice prevails in the native courts of civil and criminal law in Tenasserim; and that the perpetrator of any crime—treason, perhaps, excepted—may buy himself off, if able to furnish the requisite sum. Murder is punished with death: the culprit has his head struck off with a sword. If the victim of murder is a man of rank, the whole family of the murderer suffer the same penalty with him, in order, as the Burmans allege, that the children of the criminal may not have an opportunity of avenging his death. A traitor and a conspirator against the king, or a man of rank, is blown up with gunpowder, and his near relatives suffer the same fate. They are all shut up in a house filled with straw and gunpowder and other combustibles, and the whole is fired by a fusee. Adultery, theft, and minor offences, are commutable by fine; incestuous intercourse is punished by banishment. If a priest rescue a condemned person on his way to execution, and convey him to a pagoda, his life is spared. Whatever laws and rules were made on the subject of inheritance were seldom very strictly adhered to; and unless the deceased individual was a man of rank, the local chief of any Burman government in Tenasserim used his discretion in apportioning it, taking care to pay himself handsomely for his self-constituted post of executor. Captain Low

states, that the religion of the inhabitants of the Tenasserim coast is Buddhism; but that, as far as his own observation extended, it did not appear that they were such pious worshippers as the Peguers and Siamese. It could not be doubted, however, that the doctrines of *Buddha* had had great influence in softening and refining the manners of the people. Previous to its introduction, these nations must have been savage in the extreme, for they have left nothing to shew that they cultivated the arts, or were acquainted with letters. The author considered that the Burman pagodas were highly deserving of attention and respect, and that they materially tended to confirm the supposition of Maurice, that the circular temples in England, the remains of which attracted notice to this day, particularly those of Stonehenge, were originally dedicated to Buddhist worship.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

LORD ABERDEEN in the chair.—The Marquess of Northampton was proposed by Mr. Hudson Gurney, and, being a peer of the realm, was immediately balloted for and elected, as were, also, some other members. Mr. Till exhibited two bracelets, formed of bronze wire, interwoven or plaited, found in forming the new street from the Bank to London Wall. A note was read from Mr. Doubleday, referring to a medal exhibited to the society on the 25th of February by Mr. Kempe, who considered it as hitherto unknown. Mr. Doubleday observed, that Mr. K. was mistaken in that opinion, as the medal in question had been engraved and published by Cohler, and was one of several ingenious forgeries by a Jew, about the year 1560; and he exhibited several casts of fictitious medals from the same hand, now in the British Museum and elsewhere. The remainder was read of the Rev. John Webb's introduction to his intended "History of the Civil War in the County of Hereford;" it was principally descriptive of the leading families of that and the adjoining counties, and their respective political opinions previous to the breaking out of the quarrel between Charles I. and the Parliament. The Herefordshire people, in general, were backward and averse to interfering, but were ultimately forced into the dispute, as those who did not positively declare for the Parliament, were considered and treated as its enemies.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.

Royal Geographical, 9 P.M.—British Architects, 8 P.M.—Marylebone, 8 P.M.
Rev. J. Mudry on the true Origin of the French Language.

Tuesday.

Linnean, 8 P.M.—Horticultural, 1 P.M.—Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.—Statistical; Anniversary, 3 P.M.—Belgrave Institution, 8 P.M.
Dr. A. T. Thomson on Physical Education; and the following week.

Wednesday.

Society of Arts, 7½ P.M.

Thursday.

Royal Society, 8½ P.M.—Antiquaries, 8 P.M.—Western Literary, 8½ P.M.

Dr. Lardner on Natural Philosophy; and two following weeks.

London Institution, 7 P.M.

Mr. Hemming on the Application of Science to Domestic Economy; and seven ensuing Thursdays.

City of London Artists' and Amateurs' Con- versazione.

Friday.
Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.
Saturday.
Royal Asiatic, 2 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

NEW SOCIETY FOR ENCOURAGING THE ARTS.

WE last week noticed and recommended a new Benevolent Institution; and we have this week the pleasure to introduce to the public, and cordially to recommend, a design the object of which is "*the Encouragement of British Artists.*"

THE SOCIETY, to which the names of more than a hundred members have been at once subscribed, seems to be formed upon the model of those which exist in the principal cities of the Continent, such as Munich, Berlin, Copenhagen, &c., where they have so essentially contributed to the cultivation of the fine arts, and the stimulus and reward of artists. On one or two points, however, it appears to us to improve upon them; but we will give an outline of the plan.

The most effectual mode of attaining the end in view, is justly attributed to be "by a judicious purchase of their works. Much has already been done in this country by private patronage, much might also be effected by mutual co-operation at a small cost. With this object, societies were formed in several cities on the Continent, for raising a fund, by annual subscriptions, to be applied in the purchase of pictures, subsequently to become the property of the members by lot. A similar association has been formed in Edinburgh, by which above 700*l.* was expended in the purchase of pictures by Scottish artists in the last year's exhibition in that city; and it may be well to observe, that, in addition to the encouragement thus afforded to deserving artists, the example of the Society had the further beneficial effect of so far stimulating private patronage, that the produce of works sold was four times greater than the average amount for several preceding years. In imitation of what has been done in other countries, and with the hope of a result equally beneficial, it is proposed to form a society in London, founded on the principles stated, and for the same object, with this additional feature,—that in order to extend its utility to the higher branches of art, it is intended to form a reserve fund, to be occasionally applied in the purchase of works of higher and more important character."

With regard to the above allusion to Edinburgh, we may remark, that on the preceding year the sales at the Exhibition amounted to no more than about 300*l.*; but after the impulse was given by the new institution, they amounted to 1200*l.*, and the Society raised 720*l.*, with which, having deducted trifling expenses, it purchased twenty-seven pictures at prices of from 2*l.* to 180*l.*, which were, agreeably to the rules, disposed of by lot. It is unnecessary to insist on the effect of such encouragement upon the Arts; it is not only what is done, but what it induces artists to do, the taste and patronage it creates in individuals, and the general operation upon the public mind.

At Liverpool, in like manner, for a similar society, 1000*l.* was subscribed in three weeks, and with like beneficial effect upon the Western School of Arts.

The subscription to the London Society is a guinea annually; and the Fund, after "paying the expenses of management, and forming a reserved fund of ten per cent on the sums subscribed for the after-mentioned purposes, are to be applied in the purchase of original

works, the genuine property of British artists, sent by them for sale to the annual exhibitions in London, such works to be afterwards disposed of by lot amongst the subscribers at a general meeting. Each subscriber to be entitled to one chance for each guinea subscribed. The reserved fund, a new feature, is to be applied, under the direction of the committee, in the purchase of works of British artists, to be presented to, and placed in, some public building or institution in London, with the view of exciting public admiration, and promoting the cultivation of the higher class of art. The selection of the works for purchase, and the general management of the affairs of the Society, are to be conducted by a committee of subscribers, not being artists by profession."

The minor provisions and arrangement will, we presume, be circulated forthwith: in the meantime, we take Time by the forelock, and again most earnestly recommend this Society to every lover of the fine arts.

GRAPHIC SOCIETY.

This Society held its third meeting this session on Wednesday last. Among the contributions, which were numerous and beautiful, we observed the original cartoon for the fine fresco picture of *The seven years of famine*, in the Casa Bartholdi, at Rome, painted by the German Overbeck: Mr. Harding's beautiful work in lithography, *Sketches at home and abroad*, which at home or abroad are without rival—an opinion in which we expect the world to agree with us, when they are published: drawings by Stanfield, Daniel, Derby, and other members: a folio of beautiful studies from celebrated pictures in Italy, by Mr. Cope: another of effective and powerful sketches made in a recent tour in Switzerland and Piedmont, by Mr. Fowler. A fine collection of drawings, by the late W. Blake, created much interest; and, wild and enthusiastic as many of the subjects were, few folios exhibit designs of so much sublimity and "thoughts that burn." Some exquisite gems were also shewn, particularly the celebrated Flora by Pistrucchi, belonging to Mr. Hamilton. The meeting was fully attended, and was evidently a source of much gratification to its members and visitors.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ROSES:—A CANZONEtte.

ROSES, roses let us seek,
Where the insects trip;
Roses, fair as Jessie's cheek,
Sweet as Jessie's lip.
Roses, roses! blushing flowers,
Born for earth's delight:
Who would hate a world like ours,
Where are things so bright?
Roses, roses! blushing bright,
Ye were fair at morn;
When I sought ye in the night,
There alone the thorn!
Roses, roses! perished flowers!
Only born to fail:
Who would love a world like ours,
Where are things so frail?
Yes! our life—the common cry—
Has the rose's day;
Many a sweet, and many a sigh,
And then to fade away.
Roses! strew them on my tomb,
Ye that wander by:
Like me living, if they bloom,
Like me—if they die.

ROSA.

Dover, March 8, 1836.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.
LEGENDS OF TARTARY.* No. I.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—Your kindly notice of the compliment paid to me by my learned friend, Ferdinand Wolf of Vienna, calls for my best thanks; and your reference to the "Lays and Legends" has reminded me of a long delayed intention; namely, that of requesting you to insert in your valuable columns the accompanying Tales, which, with those contained in the portion of my little book devoted to Tartary, form a translation of the whole of that highly curious Tartarian story-book, "The Relations of Saidi Khur."

I am, &c.

WILLIAM J. THOMS.

Westminster, 16th Feb. 1836.

OF THE CHAN KOBOON-OJUH.

WHEN the son of the chan had, as formerly, entered the cold forest of Death, he seized Ssidi, and set forth with him. Ssidi spake as before, and commenced the following relation.

"In times gone by there was a blooming country, encircled on every side with sandal-trees and amiri-trees. In that land grew fruits and grain of every kind; and it was watered by bright shining rivulets. In the centre of the kingdom was a city, which was called the Golden City, and its chan was called Koboön-ojuh, or the childlike-minded.

"And among the people of that country was a man named Gazean-uchatu, or the man of the intelligent countenance. And the chan said to this man,—'Thou art, indeed, well named him of the intelligent countenance. Since, therefore, thou art really so called, take from me my talisman of life. If thou dost actually accomplish this theft, then shalt thou be richly rewarded: but if thou dost not succeed, then shall be taken from thee all that thou hast, and thine eyes shall be blinded.'

"I may not do this," said the man; but the chan replied, 'I desire thee to do so, and on the night of the full moon let the theft take place!'

"Then the chan hung the talisman of life upon three stakes, tied together, and placed watchmen at the entrance of the dwelling. On the night of the full moon came the man with the intelligent countenance, and brought unto the watchmen very choice arrack, and said unto them,—'In vain I said unto the chan, I cannot take away the talisman—the chan only desired me the more.'

"Thus speaking, he made the watchmen drunk, then filled bladders with stones, and plaited caps of grass. When midnight came he went with the sacks of stones to the dwelling of the chan, dragged the sleeping watchmen from their horses, laid the watchmen in a pit, and placed the men of stone upon the horses in their place.

"From hence he betook himself unto the hut of the chan, and found the servants of the chan lying about in heaps fast asleep. Upon him who lay next to the fire he placed a cap of grass. As to the others, who were near him, he bound three stones unto their sleeves, and then proceeded to the sleeping-chamber of the chan; placed over the head of the chan a bladder of stones, and vanished with the talisman. But before this he had tied the sleeping servants together in pairs, by the hairs of the head, one to another.

"A thief! a thief!" cried they all; but, because the hairs of their heads were tied together, they cried unto one another, 'Do not pull me! do not pull me!' And the chan said, 'Let fires be lighted quickly!' And the servant sought to kindle up the fire by blowing it; and in doing so set light to his cap of grass. His companion sought to put out the burning cap,

* We are much indebted for these, as a pendant to our recent German traditions.—Ed. L. G.

and in doing so struck him three heavy blows upon the forehead. The others cried unto the watchmen—'A thief is come among us.' But because the watchmen were sunk in sleep, the servants went forth, pulled at the stones, and the thief escaped.

"On the following morning the thief betook himself, with the talisman, unto the dwelling-place of the chan; the chan sate vexed and musing, and the man said, 'Let not the countenance of the chan be troubled.' To this the chan replied, 'Do with the talisman what thou wilt. Thy nightly work might well happen unto others; but to place the bladder upon my head, that, indeed, was not right.' And after he had spoken these words, the chan commanded his attendants, saying, 'Take this man unto the place of judgment and smite off his head.' But the man thought unto himself, 'The chan behareth not well.' Thus saying, he smote with the talisman of life upon a stone. Then the blood flew from the nose of the chan, so that he died.

"He was a very foolish chan," said the son of the chan; and Ssidi replied, 'Ruler of Destiny! thou hast spoken words! *Sarwala missadood jackzang*.' And, thus speaking, he flew from the sack through the air."

Thus Ssidi's twelfth relation treats of the Chan Koboön-ojuh.

MUSIC.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

True Love can ne'er Forget, No. I.: Songs of the Legends and Traditions of Ireland. Sung by Madame Caradori Allen. Written and composed by S. Lover, Esq. London, Duff and Co.

WE rejoice to see, by an all but blank list of Nos. on the title-page, that this is but the first of a series of twelve songs by the most delightful and popular lyricist of the day. "The Blarney" is marked as its immediate successor; but the other ten remain as yet void. No doubt, however, but the chaos will be admirably filled up with creations of beauty, and melody, and feeling. "True love can ne'er forget," is founded on the romantic minstrel story of the famous Irish bard, Carolan; and we do not remember any composition in which the details of a legend are so happily compressed, and united with the sweetness of poetical thought and expression. Indeed, so charmed are we with the language and sentiment, that we will transfer all we can of our pleasure to our readers.

"True Love can ne'er Forget.

'True love can ne'er forget,
Fondly as when we met,
Dearest, I love thee yet,
My darling one!
Thus sung a minstrel gray
His sweet impassioned lay
Down by the ocean's spray,
At rise of sun.

But wither'd was the minstrel's sight,
Morn to him was dark as night;
Yet his heart was full of light,

As he this lay begun:
'True love can ne'er forget,
Fondly as when we met,
Dearest, I love thee yet,
My darling one!

'Long years are past and o'er,
Since from this fatal shore,
Cold hearts and cold winds bore
My love from me.'

Scarcely the minstrel spoke,
When, quick, with flashing stroke,
A boat's light oar the silence broke
Over the sea.

Soon upon her native strand
Doth a lovely lady land,
While the minstrel's love-taught hand
Did o'er his sweet harp run:

' True love can ne'er forget,
Fondly as when we met,
Dearest, I love thee yet,
My darling one!

Where the minstrel sat alone,
There that lady fair hath gone,
Within his hand she placed her own,
The bard dropped on his knee:
From his lip soft blessings came,
He kiss'd her hand with truest flame,
In trembling tones he named her name,
Though her he could not see.

But, oh! the touch the bard could tell,
Of that dear hand remember'd well,
Ah! by many a secret spell,
Can true love trace his own.
For true love can ne'er forget,
Fondly as when they met,
He lov'd his lady yet,
His darling one."

The music we cannot exemplify, and must be content to say it is as full of sweet turns as the poetry. As "The Blarney" is as yet unpublished, we are sure our friends will not be displeased with a copy of this lively parody from memory, with a little assistance:—

"The Blarney."

Oh, did you ne'er hear of the Blarney,
That's found near the banks of Killarney?
Believe it from me,
No girl's heart is free,
Once she hears the sweet sound of the Blarney.
The Blarney's so great a deceiver,
That a girl thinks you're there, tho' you leave her,
And she never finds out
All the tricks you're about,
Till she's quite gone herself with your Blarney.
Oh, say, would you find this same Blarney?
There's a castle not far from Killarney,
On the top of its wall
(But take care you don't fall)
There's a stone that contains all this Blarney:
Like a magnet, its influence such is,
That attraction it gives all it touches;
If you kiss it, they say,
That from that blessed day
You may kiss whom you please, with your Blarney."

ANCIENT CONCERTS.

THE first concert, on Wednesday last, was under the direction of the Archbishop of York, and consisted principally of stock pieces, rendered familiar by constant repetition, but, probably, on that very account, listened to with the more pleasure by this audience, who, like English audiences generally, are strongly inclined to relish most the music with which they are best acquainted. We can easily conceive these incessant repetitions to be occasionally irksome enough to the performers and the critics, who hear the compositions in question oftener than others do; but, as the concerts are intended for the entertainment, not of performers and critics, but of the subscribers, it is manifestly reasonable that the taste of the latter should be principally consulted in making the selections. The only novelty on Wednesday night was a glee, "O'er desert plains," adapted to the music of H. Waelrent, 1590, and very delightfully sung by Mrs. Bishop and Messrs. Hawkins, Vaughan, and Phillips. This composition, with an occasional quaintness in the harmony, sufficient to indicate the time when it originated, has a graceful and elegant flow of melody, such as to make it quite acceptable to modern ears, and its revival reflects much credit on the taste which brought it forward. Mr. Phillips, in "Why do the nations?" was, what he always is in the songs of the *Messiah*, the very *beau idéal* of perfection. His conception, at once lofty and correct—his style, chastened by the severest taste, yet animated with all the fervour of genuine enthusiasm, combine to render him all that the most fastidious critic, nay, all that the immortal composer himself, were he now alive, could desire. Madame Caradori, who was accompanied by Willmar in "Gratias agimus," and Mrs. Bishop, by Harper, in "Let the bright seraphim," received

much applause. Mrs. Knyvett and Mr. Balfie also merited high praise. The instrumental pieces were the movement from Handel's lessons, known by the name of "The harmonious blacksmith," and Mozart's beautiful overture to *La Clemenza di Tito*. To sum up, the selection did not contain one dull or insipid piece, and appeared to give much satisfaction to a numerous audience. Q.

DRAMA.

King's Theatre.—The Opera opened on Saturday with *La Straniera*, the poorest which we know of Bellini's operas. It served, however, to introduce two new performers, Madame Coleoni Corti, and Signor Cartagenova. The former was nervous, and, from having sung lately at *La Scala*, seemed not to be aware of the power of voice required to fill our comparatively small theatre; the consequence was, she tried her voice too much, and in her high notes sang out of tune. On Tuesday there was a considerable improvement, though we think her voice is somewhat wiry, and wants richness. Her style of acting is of the best and highest order; and in parts where she need not force her voice, and after she has become accustomed to our pleasant March winds, she will be a great addition to our opera. Cartagenova possesses a fine baritone, quite equal, in our opinion, to Tamburini. He wants execution, but his expression is truly beautiful; and repeated and well-deserved plaudits rewarded his exertions on Saturday and Tuesday. Winter has not sung for two or three seasons; he is a useful rather than an ornamental man. The ballet brought forth a Madame St. Romain; she is a graceful dancer, something in the Heberlé style, and executed many neat steps in a peculiarly neat manner. Altogether, the opening must be considered highly creditable to the spirit of the management. We have seldom novelties of so much merit at the beginning of the season,—singers and dancers whom the public must be pleased to see to the end of it;—and the promise of established favourites in addition, bids fair to render it most popular and brilliant.

Drury Lane.—So brilliant has been the success of *Chevy Chase*, that the play-bills, on Monday, had the ink changed from black to red; but the press, in general, not having propped up this new humbug, it has failed to succeed the *Jewess* in drawing houses. Indeed, the succession of the week has richly deserved the empty benches which have shewn, that however puffed, such performances as *Pizarro* and *Chevy Chase*, the *Bronze Horse* and *Chevy Chase*, *Masaniello* and *Chevy Chase*, the *Siege of Rochelle* and *Chevy Chase*,—either worn out or condemned pieces,—are not calculated to make the public forget all that is yet tolerable in the drama, or the Macready and Farrens whom these "splendid spectacles," &c. &c. banish from the stage. John Bull is a great gull, it is true, but people may presume too much on his stupidity, and it has turned out to be beyond his credulity to try on *Chevy Chase* so immediately after he had been duped by the *Jewess*.

For *Chevy Chase* we needs must wall,
As one in doleful dumps;
Which, fairly hooted from the stage,
Would fight still on its stumps!

Mr. Planché can, we firmly believe, do more with any given materials than any other writer of our day; but even his talent cannot always surmount the difficulties of bringing together all the heterogeneous crudities of this vast show-shop—processions of armed men, squads of horses,

fleets of pasteboard, chapels and tombs, French danseuses, tableaux, combats of horse and foot, and Mr. Wieland. Really, a few changes of colour, which is all we have for novelty in these things, do not so much alter them—it is always the same old story.

Covent Garden.—On Thursday Miss H. Faucit tried *Juliet*, for the first time, with Mr. G. Bennett as *Romeo*, and Mr. C. Kemble as *Mercutio*.

The Ravel Family.—At the Strand, on Saturday, we witnessed the last performances of these extraordinary persons, and have to regret that there seems to be no place in London where they can exhibit to the public. For rope-dancing, feats of gymnastic strength and dexterity, and for genuine comic humour in vaudeville, we have never seen their equals. Their development of muscular power, with neatness (almost elegance) and activity, must be seen to be believed, and Gabrielle in the *Vol-au-Vent*, in particular, charmed us as the most legitimate successor to Grimaldi whom the stage has yet produced. We observe, since writing this, that they are to appear at the Adelphi; but we want their own entire performances for the night, and not patches, as in the Drury Lane pantomime, which have but little effect.

VARIETIES.

Labour alone the Source of Wealth.—A wretched dabb, drawn, &c. by Mr. C. Toplis; which represents a brawny blacksmith blowing off crowns, mitres, &c. in the shape of froth from his jug of beer. It is entitled the *Morning Advertiser v. the Morning Post*; but, looking at the subject, it might be designated by only transposing one letter of the latter, viz. *Morning Pots*.

Absent Whalers.—The *Public Ledger* of Monday, quoting the *Shipping Gazette*, says: "We were in error in supposing that all the absent whalers had been accounted for. The Lady Jane, and the William Torr, are still missing. The former, it adds, has not been heard of for a long period, and is probably lost; the latter, it is suggested, may have got fixed in Home Bay."

M. Von Hammer.—In a letter we have seen from this distinguished Orientalist to Dr. Wood, in which he pays that gentleman the highest compliments for his translation of the "History of the Assassins," from his original German, we are gratified to learn that another example has been given, in his case, of the honour in which literature is held. The Emperor of Austria has conferred upon him the title of Baron, and he signs his letter Hammer-Turystall; being, as he states, "the name of a now extinct illustrious family of Counts."

The *Drury Lane Theatrical Fund* holds its anniversary on Wednesday, and has a capital list of patrons. The Covent Garden raised a subscription of 950*l.*, and we trust the sister charity will not fall behind it. The musical talent promised is of a very attractive order, Miss Shirreff, Miss Romer, Braham, H. Phillips, &c. &c.

Sir T. Macdougall Brisbane.—We are happy to see honour bestowed upon those to whom honour is due, and the throne and the people concurring in the act. The president of the British Association, at the Edinburgh Meeting, 1834, having been created a baronet, his neighbours of the town of Kelso have commemorated the event by giving him a public dinner. Sir Thomas was present on the occasion, and received the tribute offered to his own scientific attainments and exertions for

the promotion of science, as well as to his merits as a military officer, and patriotism as a citizen, in a becoming manner. The meeting was numerously and respectfully attended, Dr. Douglas in the chair.

Laurence Gallery of the three Caraccis.—Lord F. Egerton, we understand, has purchased the whole of this series, besides a selection from the drawings of other masters previously exhibited.

M. Boileau (whose rash act, prompted by extreme misery, we mentioned a fortnight since) died of the wound in the hospital to which he was carried. His works on education were of an excellent description, and he was an able teacher both of French and German. He has left a widow to bewail his loss.

Joseph Wolff, the missionary, left Malta in the last week of January, in a steamer for Alexandria. His proposed journey is to pass through Egypt, Yemen, &c. into Abyssinia, preaching to the Jews and Musselmans.

Alimentiveness is a newly discovered phrenological organ (in or near the roof of the mouth, we suppose), which rules the physical appetites that vary into gluttony, drunkenness, smoking, hunger, thirst, and many diseases connected therewith, including hydrophobia, or hatred of water!!

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Our Correspondent must be aware that we never admit any opinion of a forthcoming publication under this head. We must see and judge for ourselves; and here we only collect such literary intelligence as may interest the public.

In the Press.

The Perils of Authorship, by an Old and Popular Author.—Dedicated to the King of the French, an edition, in French, of A. Lumley David's Turkish Grammar.—Kidd's Mirror of Etiquette, Gentility, and Politeness. Also, Mirror of Elegance; Mirror of Modern Refinement and Taste; and Mirror of Fashion and the *Bon-Monde*. [This announcement would surely become our little contemporary, the *Mirror*. Ed. L. G.]—A satirical novel called *The Bachelor Duke*.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, in a Course of Lectures, by Sir H. Davy, Bart. LL.D. F.R.S. 5th edition, 8vo. 15s. bds.—On the Analysis of the Blood and Urine in Health and Disease, by G. O. Rees, Esq. 2s. 6d. bds.—Debre's Complete Peerage of Great Britain and Ireland, 21st edition, edited by Wm. Courthope, Esq. post 8vo. 32s. cloth.—A Treatise on the Prevention and Cure of Pulmonary Consumption, by Robert Little, M.D. 8vo. 6s. bds.—D. R. Hay on Harmonious Colouring, 8vo. 3d. edition, 3s. 6d. cloth.—Astronomy for Schools, &c. by Thos. Mudie, royal 18mo. 3s. cloth.—Illustrations of Vegetable Physiology, by James Main, 1st edition, 12mo. 6s. 6d. cloth.—Awful Disclosures of Maria Monk, one of the Black Nuns at Montreal, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cloth.—The Civil War in Portugal and the Siege of Oporto, by a British Officer of Hussars, post 8vo. 9s. bds.—The Little Scholar learning to Talk, by the Rev. Jacob Abbott, 18mo. 3s. bd.—The Scriptural Catechism for Sunday-Schools, by R. Orford, 24mo. 2s. 6d. hf.-bd.—We shall Meet again: Original Pieces, Prose and Verse, 32mo. 3s. 6d. silk.—Nomenclator Poeticus; or, the Quantities of all the Proper Names that occur in the Latin Classic Poets ascertained, by L. Sharpe, 12mo. 6s. 6d. bds.—Guy's Elements of Modern History, 12mo. 3s. 6d. bds.—Ditto Ancient History, 12mo. 3s. 6d. bds.—The Book of Flowers, by Mrs. Hall, 18mo. 10s. 6d. satin gilt.—Songs of the Alhambra, &c. by Miss Smith, 18mo. 7s. 6d. bds.—Parker's Progressive Exercises in English Grammar, Part II. 12mo. 1s. 6d. hf.-bd.—Spain Revisited, by the Author of "A Year in Spain," 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s. bds.—Two Visits to New Zealand, 1834, by W. B. Marshall, 12mo. 7s. 6d. cloth.—On the Prophecies and Miraculous Gifts, by the Rev. T. Meyer, 12mo. 5s. cloth.—Histoire de Gil Blas, par Le Sage, cuts, imperial, 21s. sewed.—Memoirs of the Life of the Right Hon. Sir James Mackintosh, by his Son, 24 edition, 2 vols. 8vo. 32s. bds.—Aphorisms of Junius, by G. T. Fisher, 18mo. 2s. 6d. sewed.—Sermons, by Rev. Robert Simson, 12mo. 5s. cloth.—Mourner's Friend, 32mo. 3s. hf.-bd.—The Most Striking Events of a Twelve-month's Campaign with Zumalacarre in Spain, by C. F. Henningsen, 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s. bds.

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Printed by JAMES MOYES, of Number 11 Brook Green, Hanover Square, in the County of Middlesex, at his Printing Office, No. 28 Castle Street, Leicester Square, in the Strand County.